Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-169
Friday
1 September 1989

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FBIS-NES-89-169 *1 September 1989*

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Inter-Arab Affairs

Jordan's Al-Qasim Reaffirms Position on Lebanon

JN3108133289 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that Jordan has expressed its wish that Syria help the Arab tripartite committee carry out its basic task, which is to apply the Arab solution to the Lebanese crisis. In a statement to our radio before leaving Amman for Belgrade to participate in the preparations for the nonaligned conference, al-Qasim added: The Arab concept of a solution stemming from the tripartite committee on Lebanon fully represents the viewpoint of Jordan and the Arab states.

Al-Qasim explained that Jordan has not played the role of mediator in the Lebanese crisis because, in particular, the committee has adopted a solution that coincides exactly with the Jordanian position. Al-Qasim expressed the hope that Syria would radically change its attitude toward the committee since the committee cannot continue its work without such a change. Al-Qasim pointed out that the committee has full, unconditional powers to apply the Arab concept of resolving the Lebanese crisis.

Al-Qasim said that he conveyed a message yesterday, Wednesday, from King Husayn of Jordan to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on various topics, especially the Lebanese issue. He said that he also conveyed a messsage from King Husayn to King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz affirming that the Jordanian position on the Lebanese crisis fully agrees with the Arab concept put forward by the committee. The message, he added, also contained Jordan's thanks and appreciation for the continuous and generous aid it is receiving from Saudi Arabia. This aid, he continued, has helped stabilize conditions in Jordan and has enabled the Kingdom to overcome some of the financial and economic hardships it is facing.

While in Belgrade, Al-Qasim will meet with the foreign ministers of Morocco, Algeria, Egypt, and Tunisia to continue consultations on the Lebanese crisis and the single Arab stand on this crisis.

Syrian Spokesman on Egyptian, Jordanian Positions

JN3108135889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Answering a question about Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's statement concerning Syria's position on Lebanon, the spokesman of the Syrian Presidency has said: We do not know on what basis His Excellency President Husni Mubarak, president of the Republic of Egypt, made the statement that Syria has changed its position on Lebanon. The message which the Syrian foreign minister carried from President Hafiz al-Asad to His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal during his visit to Jordan at the invitation of his colleague the Jordanian foreign minister, was a fraternal one dealing bilateral matters. It did not contain a single word on Lebanon. We would like to state that Syria's stands are firm, as is its policy concerning Lebanon. If the question has to do with the situation in Lebanon, Syria has already stated and continues to state that it is always ready to cooperate with everyone on the basis of the Casablanca Arab summit resolution on this subject. Syria has announced that more than once.

Later, a responsible source in the Syrian Foreign Ministry made the following statement: The visit which Minister Faruq al-Shar' made to Jordan last Tuesday and Wednesday [29 and 30 August; as heard] was at the invitation of Minister Marwan al-Qasim to exchange opinions on the relations between the two fraternal countries. On this occasion, President Hafiz al-Asad requested Minister al-Shar' to convey his greetings and best wishes to his brother His Majesty King Husayn. Jordanian officials expressed their desire to discuss developments in Lebanon and to learn Syria's position on these developments. It was also noticed that the media focused on this particular suject during the news conference which Minister al-Shar' held at the conclusion of his visit to Jordan.

The spokesman added: Jordanian and Syrian media were objective in reporting excerpts of this news conference in which Minister al-Shar' affirmed that Syria has made no conditions for resuming the efforts of the Arab tripartite committee to implement the Casablanca summit resolution in all its provisions. Syria is interested in enabling the Lebanese Government, which would stem from the national accord, to establish its authority over all of the Lebanese soil. Minister al-Shar' also reaffirmed Syria's desire to implement the Arab resolution, achieve a firm and comprehensive cease-fire, lift the blockades, and ban the delivery of firearms to all sides in Lebanon in order to begin the political solution process under the summit resolution.

The spokesman added: Minister al-Shar' explained that 'Awn's recourse to a military solution since last 14 March, his eruption of the situation, imposition of the blockade, stockpiling of arms, infliction of massive damage, and the fall of many victims in West Beirut—have all made the nationalist and Islamic forces in Lebanon insist on their demand for a mechanism to prevent arms supplies. This was what Minister al-Shar' explained in every meeting with Jordanian officials.

However, the spokesman regretted that certain other news media have made a point of misleading public opinion about the true Syrian position on the Lebanese crisis. The media, he said, have also tried to distort the nature of the visit and the cordial atmosphere surrounding the meetings, claiming to base their information on authoritative sources.

Maghreb Trade Union Federation Formed 30 Aug

LD3108152989 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, 31 Aug—The formation of the Arab Maghreb Trade Union Federation was announced yesterday at the Headquarters UGTT [General Union of Tunisian Workers] in Tunis.

The document creating the federation was signed by UGTT Secretary General Ismail Sahbani, as well as by representatives of the General Congress of Producers in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the General Union of Algerian Workers, and the Moroccan Workers Union.

The documents states that the Maghreb trade unions have agreed on the following:

—To announce the creation of a trade unions federation comprising the trade unions of the Greater Arab Maghreb.
—To form a preparatory committee consisting of representatives of each of the regional trade unions for drawing up a draft constitution and internal bylaws, as well as a draft statement defining the broad lines of the federation's work to be submitted to the constituent conference of the federation. The committee will hold its first meeting on 7 October 1989 in Tripoli.
—To hold a meeting of the constituent conference of the Arab Maghreb Trade Union Federation on 7 and 8 December, 1989, in Casablanca, Morocco.

Ismail Sahbani said during the signing ceremony, which was attended among others by Nouri Boudali, one of the founders of the UGTT, that the signing of the announcement on the formation of the Arab Maghreb Trade Union Federation was the crowing of the efforts made on 28 and 29 August, and a realization of the dream the strugglers of the trade unionist movement in the Arab Maghreb nurtured for many years. He affirmed that by creating the Arab Maghreb Trade Union Federation, the Maghreb workers have proven their loyalty to the memory of the martyrs and strugglers of the region's workers' movement.

Sahbani added that the current political climate, which is characterized by struggle, helped in the creation of the federation.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Sends Message to Vienna Conference

JN3108192289 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, head of the state of Palestine, has called for the efforts all popular nongovernmental forces be concerted with international governmental efforts to pressure the U.S. Administration into giving up its blind bias regarding the aggressive Israeli policies which deny the Palestinian people's national rights—first of which is their right to self-determination. This came in a message addressed by brother Yasir 'Arafat to the 6th international United Nations conference of nongovernmental organizations on the Palestine question which opened in Vienna yesterday.

Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] accused the U.S. Administration of applying a double standard toward the just Palestinian cause. He said that while the United States defends human rights everywhere else, it defends the occupation authorities' violations of the Palestinian people's national and human rights.

In his message, Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat reviewed the suffering of our Palestinian people caused by the brutal repressive Zionist measures which have left hundreds of martyrs and thousands of wounded. He said that tens of thousands of Palestinian citizens have been detained, hundreds of houses demolished, and dozens of Palestinian strugglers have been deported under the policy of mass penalties adopted by the Zionist occupation authorities. He estimated the Palestinian people's material losses under the occupation at over $2 billion in the industrial, labor, tourist, and agricultural sectors.

He added that despite the Palestinian people's suffering and heavy sacrifices for the sake of their freedom and independence, the Palestine National Council endorsed in its 19th session in Algiers last year a brave peace initiative reflecting the Palestinian people's sincere desire to achieve peace in their land and the in the region.

Brother Abu-'Ammar explained that the Palestinian peace initiative is based on calling for an international peace conference on the Middle East to be attended by the UN Security Council permanent member states and the parties to the dispute, including the PLO.

Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that this Palestinian peace initiative has been welcomed and supported by the international community and various international organizations.

The Vienna conference was inaugurated yesterday by Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock whose country is hosting it. Participating in the conference are representatives from nongovernmental organizations and political and social figures from throughout the world, in addition to Ronald (Faya), UN assistant secretary general.

'Arafat Receives Letter From Sweden's Andersson

JN3108154689 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1436 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, 31 Aug (WAKH)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has received a written message, which was described as important, from Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Sture Andersson.

The message was delivered by the Swedish Foreign Minister's envoy when he was received by the Palestinian president in Tunis today.

The Palestinian news agency said president 'Arafat conferred with the Swedish envoy on the latest developments in the region, especially the Palestinian people's intifadah [uprising] against Israeli occupation and terrorist practices against Palestinian citizens.

Philippines To Recognize Palestinian State

JN0109101989 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Tunis—The Palestinian news agency WAFA has reported that the Philippines will in the coming few days recognize the state of Palestine, proclaimed by the Palestine National Council in November 1988.

WAFA added that the future of relations between the PLO and Manila was the subject of discussion during yesterday's talks in the Tunisian capital between Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and the chairwoman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Philippines Senate, who is currently visiting Tunis.

'Abbas Cited on Lebanon, U.S. Dialogue

JN3108194489 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 30 Aug 89 p 29

[By Fathi al-Barqawi]

[Text] Tunis—Egypt has said that it has no objection to hosting an extraordinary Arab summit to discuss the Lebanese crisis. This came in a statement to AL-ANBA' by PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, who visited Cairo recently leading a Palestinian delegation including 'Abdallah Hurani and Jamal al-Surani.

Asked if Egypt is not enthusiastic over a Palestinian proposal to hold an extraordinary Arab summit, Abu-Mazin said that Egypt wants thorough preparations for such a conference and seeks full clarifications of the Arab stands. Intensive consultations should be held with all imprortant states before convening the summit. He denied that Egypt is unenthusiastic.

The PLO Executive Committee member disclosed that Iraq, Jordan, and the PLO agree on holding such a conference. He added that discussions are underway with other Arab parties to find the appropriate formula.

Abu-Mazin noted that in light of the deteriorating situation in Lebanon, Iraqi, Jordanian, and Palestinian officials reviewed in Baghdad the work of the Arab tripartite committee which announced that it had reached a dead end. This situation encouraged the three states to search for other means. He noted that the discussion of this issue was conducted in the Jordanian capital, Amman. An agreement was reached to call for an emergency Arab summit to discuss the Lebanese crisis. He said that the Arab tripartite committee was asked to call for an Arab summit after 6 months if it failed to reach an acceptable solution. However, after only 3 months it announced its failure because of the Syrian stand, as it stated in its statement. And because the situation did not witness any new Arab move there must be a move toward convening an emergency Arab summit out of fear that the Lebanese crisis will be internationalized—a matter which the Arabs will greatly regret.

The Palestinian official also disclosed that he discussed with officials in Cairo and Amman the role that both Egypt and Jordan could play regarding the United States. He added that the PLO asked the two countries to convey Palestinian ideas to the U.S. Administration on the issue of elections in the occupied Palestinian territory. The PLO has defined its position on this issue on many occasions, particularly its commitment to the Casablanca summit.

Abu-Mazin added that any dialogue or talks between Palestinians from the occupied territory and Israeli officials on elections or other issues have been rejected by the PLO. He added that the PLO also refuses to form a delegation composed only of personalities from the occupied territory because the PLO believes that would signify the division of the Palestinian people and a complete disregard of Palestinian rights as a whole. This is not an issue of the West Bank and Gaza only, but of an entire people that exist inside the occupied territory and in the diaspora. He stressed that dividing the representation of the Palestinian people has been rejected because the Palestinian people are one people represented by the PLO.

Mahmud 'Abbas called on the U.S. Administration to restate clearly and frankly its previous stands such as the application of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and the exchange of land for peace. The administration, he added, should also define a clear stand on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the international conference.

The Palestinian official said that if the United States meets these demands, the PLO would be convinced of the United States' real inclination toward finding a just and comprehensive solution. Right now, however, the U.S. stand remains unchanged, supporting the Israeli stand as declared by the Shamir government.

Asked about a 10-point Egyptian plan conveyed to the Israeli Government by U.S. congressmen who visited Cairo and Tel Aviv recently, Abu-Mazin said the PLO does not consider them to be official plans, but feelers. The PLO position, he said, is clear. He announced that a Palestinian delegation has conveyed to the Egyptian Government the Palestinian position on all future plans that might be presented by the U.S. Administration or Israel. This position, he said, was a written one.

Regarding U.S.-PLO contacts and whether the PLO is about to embark on new moves toward Europe following the deadlock at the end of the fourth round of talks, Mahmud 'Abbas said PLO moves, especially toward Europe, do not depend on the outcome of the dialogue with the United States. These moves, he said, are a continuing process whether the dialogue succeeds or

fails. He announced that the PLO's political and diplomatic contacts have continued since the 19th Palestine National Council session with West European states and also with nonaligned states, African states, Islamic states, and socialist bloc countries. He said: We will not stop these contacts, and they are not linked to the success or failure of the dialogue with the United States.

Abu-Mazin expressed the belief that the dialogue with the United States has not made any progress. He said: It is the PLO's duty to end the deadlock, but this should not be at the expense of its principles. We will not go back on our stands. We will ask the United States to define its own position independently of the Israeli stand.

Abu-Mazin concluded his statement by referring to the Jordanian Government's positive response on a number of topics which were discussed by the two sides recently, such as the transportation of goods, transit trade, and the purchase of goods from the West Bank.

Regarding passports, Abu-Mazin explained: The situation remains the same. Those who live inside [the occupied territory] can obtain passports valid for 2 years, and those who live outside can get passports valid for 5 years.

Abu-Sharif Interviewed on Intifidah, Settlement

PM3108111189 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Aug 89 p 3

[Interview with Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to president Yasir 'Arafat, by Zaki Musa Shihab; date, place not given]

[Text] [Shihab] According to some reports, Israel has begun distributing arms to some of the people who have dealings with it. How do you view Israel's designs for the future in this connection?

[Abu-Sharif] We have indeed received definite and accurate information that, at a meeting held 2 July, Israel's Inner Cabinet decided to issue arms to some agents who cooperate with it with the aim of creating militias that would cooperate with the occupation authorities and later carry out terrorist operations to undermine national unity in the occupied territory.

The PLO leadership has some of the details of that plan. One aim of the plan is to assassinate patriotic figures in the occupied territory and accuse the intifadah [uprising] of the crime with the aim of dividing Palestinian ranks.

We therefore warn those who cooperate with the Zionist enemy against participating in the implementation of Israeli designs, and we urge our brothers and kinfolk to be vigilant and cautious.

Another aim of the plan is to have certain groups carry out burglaries and robberies and blame men of the strike forces for them so as to smear their image. Many resources have been earmarked for that purpose. Our people's alertness and ability to expose enemy tricks will certainly foil these dastardly designs.

[Shihab] How could these designs be frustrated?

[Abu-Sharif] By highlighting their objectives and concentrating on exposing Israeli practices in international circles in general and U.S. circles in particular. The U.S. Administration is requested to break its silence regarding the murder of the American child of Palestinian origin Majid Jibril because continued silence would give an unfavorable and negative impression of the U.S. approach to the Middle East crisis and would give the Palestinians the impression that Washington cannot take a stand against the Israeli Government even in connection with the killing of a U.S. national, as in the case of Majid, or with causing the death of another American, as in the case of the killing of Colonel Higgins.

The U.S. Administration is also requested to disclose the fate of other Americans who were with Majid and who have not been heard of since.

[Shihab] How would you describe the U.S. position after all these sessions of dialogue with the PLO? What results have been achieved?

[Abu-Sharif] The U.S. position so far is partial and lacks objectivity and justice. We hope that when he returns from his vacation President Bush will act to rectify the U.S. position to show that the U.S. Administration really wants to end the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. So far the U.S. position does not clearly indicate that what President Bush said to the Israeli prime minister in Washington about the need to end Israel's occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is a part of the U.S. Administration's plan of action.

[Shihab] Recent reports speak of a PLO intention to take more practical steps connected with ending the dialogue with the United States if the latter maintains its current attitude. What will the PLO do?

[Abu-Sharif] The PLO has given all that was asked of it by the international community to facilitate the peace process in the Middle East, but the Israeli Government stuck to its position and ignored the appeals for peace in the region. There can be no doubt that Shamir's position, which clearly rejects the return of even one foot of territory to the Arabs, provides irrefutable evidence of the Israeli Government's rejection of peace.

The PLO will maintain its commitment to the cause of peace and will escalate the resistance to the occupation in the interest of the Palestinian policy. The PLO leadership has new weapons which it could use the moment the leadership decides to do so. These important weapons are capable of ensuring continuation and escalation of the intifadah with the aim of ending the occupation.

[Shihab] To what extent does Israel's deportation of prominent patriotic figures from the occupied territory affect the intifadah?

[Abu-Sharif] The intifadah will continue no matter what measures Israel takes. The occupied territory is full of strugglers and resisters. There is no fear for the intifadah from attempts to discourage its people.

There is a Security Council resolution calling for an end to deportation and for the return of deportees to the occupied homeland. The council, therefore, is requested to take practical measures to repatriate them and put an end to such measures, which are condemned by every member of the international community.

The PLO, in this respect, awaits the Security Council steps before making new decisions. We may soon begin to prepare the return ships which we had postponed before, in which case some world figures would certainly take part and the world press would cover.

We are in no hurry. We are patient and time is on our side. We tell everyone under the illusion that time would benefit Israel or the Zionist extremists that our people have decided to wrest their freedom at any price, and we will, despite all the Israeli enemy's measures.

We seek peace but not capitulation. We offer peace out of strength. We are sure that the intifadah will triumph. What Shamir is banking on will only lead to his defeat and the defeat of those who have a vested interest in keeping the Israelis ignorant of what is going on in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Israeli people are just spectators in what is happening in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Israeli army uses live ammunition against the Palestinians and supports the crimes committed by armed settlers regardless of the ongoing controversy in Israeli political circles.

That is why we will escalate our resistance against occupation and we will use new methods in reply to Shamir's racist policy which has surpassed Nazism in its bestial repressive acts against Palestinian women and children. We will not stop the resistance until the last Israeli soldier leaves.

[Shihab] Are there any new steps to give the Palestinian moves fresh impetus? What about President 'Arafat's forthcoming visit to New York to attend the UN General Assembly [UNGA] session?

[Abu-Sharif] The PLO will act in a progressive, organized, and studied manner to keep the political initiative announced by President Yasir 'Arafat 13 December 1988 in full swing. It will carefully consider the question of the Palestinian president's participation in the UNGA session. We are certain that everything will ultimately work in favor of our Palestinian Arab people.

Discussion of the Middle East question between the foreign ministers of the two superpowers in New York will be a new element which may help in giving the political peace move a new push forward.

Egypt

Mubarak Reportedly Rejects Offer To Meet Shamir

JN0109102789 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Doha—Press reports published in Doha today said that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has rejected an Israeli request to hold a meeting between him and Yitzhaq Shamir, the Israeli enemy's prime minister, in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session, scheduled to be held in mid-October.

The Qatari newspaper, AL-RAYAH, says that the U.S. Administration, which informed Egypt of the Israeli request, cited Shamir as saying that the only way to end the current stalemate in Israeli-Egyptian relations is to hold a meeting with President Mubarak, and that he is prepared to answer the nine Egyptian queries submitted by Cairo to the U.S. Administration regarding his elections plan if President Mubarak agrees to meet with him in New York.

The newspaper adds that the Egyptian President informed the U.S. Administration that he cannot meet with Shamir unless there were clear, positive indications before the meeting of a positive new position to serve the desired peace in the region.

Mubarak, 'Arafat Hold News Conference 30 Aug

NC0109075689 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Aug 89

[News conference held by President Husni Mubarak and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat with unidentified reporters in Cairo on 30 August—recorded]

[Text] ['Arafat] I was pleased to meet with his excellency the president this morning and brief him on the current developments in the Palestinian issue, particularly with respect to the intifadah [uprising] of our people in the occupied territories, the Israeli army's continuing crimes against our children, women, and masses, and the failed attempts by the occupation authorities and Israeli armed settlers to end the intifadah. We also reviewed international political developments, including the recent U.S.-Palestinian dialogue. I briefed his excellency the president on this dialogue, which we believe fell short of the desired goal, because of the U.S. Government's insistence on adopting the Shamir plan.

[Reporter] Is there anything new regarding the election plan? Do you intend to take part in the forthcoming meetings of the UN General Assembly?

['Arafat] Regarding the UN General Assembly session, so far it is not on my schedule. As for the elections, it is true that Egypt has presented several points, but as far as I know it has not received an answer from the Israelis to its 10-point query. Of course his excellency the president is in a better position to answer this question.

[Mubarak] The Palestinian issue was at the center of our discussion today, because it is the heart of the problem in the region and the key to resolving the Lebanese and other problems.

Regarding the tripartite committee on Lebanon, His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan, during his recent visit to Egypt, briefed me on the message he had received from His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria on the tripartite committee. We have been encouraging the committee to resume its work and had hoped that President Hafiz al-Asad would cooperate in facilitating the work of the committee so that the Lebanese people and government can enjoy sovereignty over their territory. This can only be achieved through the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon, and by foreign troops I mean all non-Lebanese troops: The Syrians, the Iranians, and the Israelis. In order for Lebanon to exercise sovereignty over its territory, these troops must withdraw.

However, I was surprised by the change in position the day after I met with the king. I cannot elaborate on what the change means because I do not have all the details. However, it was astonishing. Anyway, should the tripartite committee resume the dialogue with the Lebanese parties and the brothers in Syria, it will have until the end of the year, until December. After that, it will have to report on the results of this dialogue and of the efforts by His Majesty King Hassan II Morocco, His Majesty King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, and brother President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria to an ordinary or extraordinary Arab summit. As I have said before, this matter must be adopted by the Arab nation because, after all, Lebanon is an Arab country and we must not leave our Arab problems to any foreign power to solve. It is a shame not to be able to solve a problem like that of Lebanon, which could affect all the Arab countries in the region.

['Arafat] If I may add something, should the Arab nation fail to resolve the Lebanese crisis, it will be a disaster because it means the crisis will be internationalized, and consequently, Lebanon will be partitioned into small cantons under the terms of the conspiracy jointly concocted by Israel and some Arab parties. The Arab world is facing a historic challenge on this issue.

[Correspondent] The Soviet Union is the latest foreign party to intervene in the Lebanese issue. Do you think such intervention will promote a resolution of the Lebanese crisis or can it only be resolved by the Arabs?

[Mubarak] If by Soviet intervention, you mean the kind with troops and all the rest, I have not heard about anything like that.

[Reporter] No, I mean consultation and mediation.

[Mubarak] The United States, the USSR, the European countries, France, and the African countries are involved in the consultation and mediation. However, Lebanon is an Arab country and so ultimately it is the Arab League,

which tackled this issue in depth at its latest summit in Casablanca, that must state its position and take the necessary measures so that the Lebanese may retain their sovereignty.

Fatah Representative on U.S.-Palestinian Talks

NC3108151689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 31 Aug (MENA)—Zuhdi al-Qidrah, the Fatah Movement's representative and PLO charge d'affiares in Cairo, has stated that the talks between President Husni Mubarak and Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat succeeded in developing a common vission regarding action in the coming stage. He added that this action will focus on attracting further international support for the Palestinian cause, which will help exert pressure on the United States. He said the United States adopts Yitzhaq Shamir's plan without giving consideration to any other relevant points.

Al-Qidrah quoted 'Arafat as saying that the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue falls far short of the required level, due to the U.S adoption of the Shamir plan.

Al-Qidrah pointed out that the United States is still biased toward Israel, as demonstrated by its abstention yesterday in the voting on a UN Security Council resolution condemning the deportation of Pelstinians from the occupied territories. This, he said, means that the United States is protecting Israel and its terrorist and repressive measures against the Palestinian people.

Al-Qidrah called on the United States to take a just and fair stand toward the Palestinian people because human rights are indivisible. He noted that the intifadah [uprising] will continue in the occupied territories until the national rights of the Palestinians are recognized.

Husayn Conveys Al-Asad Letter to Mubarak

JN3108173689 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 30 Aug 89 p 1

[Text] Cairo—AL-ANBA' has learned that King Husayn conveyed a message to President Husni Mubarak from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during his recent visit to Cairo. Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' handed Al-Asad's message to the Jordanian monarch during a visit to Jordan on the eve of King Husayn's visit to Cairo.

AL-ANBA' also learned that the Syrian president's letter to the Egyptian president reaffirms Syria's concern about Egyptian-Syrian relations and proposes a date for the restoration of relations between the two countries. The restoration of relations is expected to be announced in an official statement to be issued in Syria and Egypt after the return of the Egyptian president from the nonaligned summit.

Mubarak Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Anniversary

NC3108124089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1115 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 31 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, president of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiryah, on the occasion of the celebrations marking the 1 September revolution:

On the occasion of the celebrations marking the 1 September revolution, I am pleased to send to you the sincerest heartfelt congratulations along with best wishes that God almighty will help the fraternal Libyan people attain the prosperity and progress they desire and help us work for what is for our nation's good and sovereignty.

'Text' of Mubarak Interview on Regional Issues

NC3108141689 Cairo MENA in English 1030 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, Aug 31 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has called for more activation of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM). Otherwise it would lose its credibility. The president urged NAM member countries to adopt a factual approach to deal with current economic problems. He warned that if no such approach was adopted there would be an economic slide of grave consequences in Third World countries.

President Mubarak said he believed that the main problem in Third World and NAM countries was the economic and debts problem. He stressed the importance of having a North-South dialogue to seek a solution which would serve the interests of both sides.

The president made the statements in a joint exclusive interview which he gave to Mihailo Saranovic, director general of the Yugoslav news agency TANJUG and Mustafa Najib, board chairman and editor-in-chief of MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY (MENA).

President Mubarak said that as chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) he would speak before the Belgrade non-aligned summit about the problems of the African Continent and the support which NAM could give to African countries. Debts and the economic situation in the African Continent would be the main issue which the president will deal with.

On his efforts to settle African differences, President Mubarak said he would exert his utmost, in cooperation with Arab and African countries, to pave the way for solution and conciliation. The president said conflicts between the Arabs and Africans were fictitious. Hidden elements were behind such conflicts. These elements wanted to create a state of instability in the African Continent.

President Mubarak said NAM supported the Palestine issue. An end to the intifadah [uprising] depended on

Israel moving in the right direction to solve the Palestine issue and give a hope for initiating negotiations with Palestinian parties.

The only solution to the Lebanon problem was the withdrawal of all foreign forces, without exception, from Lebanese territory. Lebanese factions could then discuss solutions to their differences without any outside interference. Discussing internal issues, President Mubarak said no foreign military bases would be allowed to exist on Egyptian territory. Anybody suggesting that leasing bases would solve Egypt's economic problems was completely wrong.

President Mubarak said no cabinet change in Egypt was being contemplated. Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi has returned to Egypt after performing [as received] a surgical operation and is fit and in good health.

President Mubarak said there were no problems between Egypt and Syria. Contacts were continuing with Libya.

Preparations are underway to open a Libyan people's bureau in Cairo and an Egyptian embassy in Tripoli. Egyptian-Libyan relations were progressively improving. And Egyptian delegation under Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy premier and minister of agriculture and land reclamation, will go to Tripoli to attend Libya's celebration of the September 1 revolution.

Following is the text of the question-and-answer interview with President Mubarak.

[Question] Mr President: At one time, non-aligned countries were active in a political and military framework. In contemporary times and in the shadow of major international economic blocs, do you think that members of NAM should give attention to a new approach to deal with their economic retardedness and their technological lagging behind?

[President] In fact, most of the non-aligned countries, if not all of them, suffer from a state of economic retardedness. In my opinion, NAM, which has a large number of member countries, should adopt a definite approach so that it could be possible to carry out economic reforms in these countries. We all suffer from economic problems. Dealing with economic troubles is very essential in the life of people. Therefore, non-aligned countries and NAM should find a practical formula to deal with economic problems together with rich countries. Otherwise, economic conditions in Third World countries would continue to slide until they reach a level of grave consequences. Rich countries should also realise that if economic deterioration in non-aligned and Third World countries continued, this would definitely affect rich countries and their production. If poor or Third World countries are unable to import from rich countries, the latter would be obliged to reduce their production and this, in turn, would lead to closure of some factories and more unemployment. This would make us face problems as was the case before. In 1930 there was a world economic collapse. Therefore we should all, not only poor countries but also rich countries, be aware of this.

[Question] Mr. President: What is the most important accomplishment you expect from the Belgrade non-aligned summit?

[President] I cannot predict anything now. We have to wait until representatives of 102 countries meet. It may be difficult for 102 countries to agree but at least the majority would discuss the main issues of interest to the majority of countries. I shall speak about the issue of Third World countries' debts. This is a basic issue. Countries which fail to support this issue would not be fair to their people. We all need reforms. What we are seeking is a rescheduling and not stopping repayment of debts. I therefore consider that the economic and debts problem is the number one problem in Third World and non-aligned countries.

[Question] How do you, Mr President, visualise the role of Yugoslavia and Egypt in the Non-Alignement Movement? Do you look forward to seeing the two countries assume a leading and pioneering role in the movement as was the case in the fifties?

[President] Let me tell you something. Yugoslavia and Egypt (Tito and 'Abd-al-Nasir) are founders of NAM together with India. I believe that the three countries have a special position in NAM. There is understanding among them because the three countries are the true founders of NAM. I cannot claim a role for Egypt, Yugoslavia or India alone because NAM has been enlarged and now comprises 102 countries.

[Question] What is your opinion, Your Excellency, about the problem of debts and a solution for it ?

[President] I have spoken about this. This is the issue No 1 for the non-aligned countries which contain the majority of poor countries and the majority of consuming countries in the world. If the rich countries do not study this problem thoroughly and find a solution for it, it would be a disaster not only for the poor countries but also for the rich countries. Their production would be reduced and we are going to reach a depression like that which happened in 1930 which affected the rich and poor.

[Question] What do you think about the possibility of economic cooperation among non-aligned countries considering the possible continuation of North-South dialogue ?

[President] They are trying to start this dialogue and you heard about the proposal which has been presented to the G7 [Group of Seven], the seven rich countries in Paris. It was not refused and they said it would be considered. I think that such a dialogue is important so that all sides should understand each other because the problem is not the problem of the poor but is also the

problem of the rich and therefore there should be a dialogue to reach a good solution in the interest of both sides.

[Question] What can NAM give to the first cause of the Arabs, the cause of Palestine?

[President] NAM supports the Palestine cause. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has made many concessions. There have been no reactions from the Israeli side. NAM will continue to support the Palestine cause.

[Question] How do you visualise the relationship between Africa and the Arab world and between Africa and Europe through the Arab-African and the African-European dialogues?

[President] The Arab-African dialogue is very important. It began in 1977. I hope to activate this dialogue because I consider it important. The Arab-European dialogue has not developed and has not produced any result. We should seek first an Arab-Arab dialogue. Europe will have a common market in 1992. It shall create one state at a time when we are still various states. We, the rich and poor, shall be affected economicly. Therefore, Arab countries should have their weight and agree among themselves on a means of dealing with economic blocs which will be created after 1992: Europe as one western economic bloc and the United States and Canada as one economic bloc. Where are we as an Arab nation?

[Question] What does Egypt say about the updating of NAM?

[President] I have discussed this with the Yugoslav foreign minister some time ago. We should make the Non-Aligned Movement much more active than before. Otherwise it is going to lose its credibility. There are good aspects to move forward.

[Question] What are Your Excellency's expectations about that non-aligned summit in Belgrade and what new ideas Egypt will bring?

[President] As chairman of the OAU I am going to speak in the name of the African countries. What are the problems of the African countries and what support can the non-aligned countries give to the African countries and the main issue I am going to speak about is the issue of debts and the economic situation which is a factor which does not not affect only the African countries but all non-aligned countries.

[Question] Yugoslavia is going to be the venue of the non-aligned summit. What is your general idea about one country to be twice the venue of the non-aligned summit?

[President] For Yugoslavia to be the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement for the second time this is due to the role of Yugoslavia in the Non-Aligned Movement which is so important because of the active role of Yugoslavia in the movement.

[Question] There have been rumours about an imminent cabinet reshuffle in Egypt because of the health condition of Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi following the surgical operation which he underwent recently. What truth is there in these rumours and reports?

[President] Every year, from August to the first of November, we hear reports about cabinet changes. They are now talking about the health condition of Dr 'Atif Sidqi. Many people in this country undergo operations similar to that which was performed for Dr 'Atif Sidqi and these people resume their work in a normal manner. Why when the prime minister undergoes the same operation do some portray it out of all proportion? Some invent rumours and some believe such rumours. A cabinet reshuffle is not on my mind . If I find that the prime minister is unable to carry out his duties, then this is something which I can consider. But Dr Sidqi is now capable of performing his duties. We are passing through an important stage. There are talks with the International Monetary Fund and others. It is not natural to change prime ministers every day. No country would wish not to be stable, economically and politically. If some newspapers say that I am going to make changes, I say that I do not make changes for the sake of change. To those who propagate these rumours I say that many people have undergone the same operation which was performed for Dr. Sidqi. The prime minister is back and is in good health.

[Question] You have been known as a man of reconciliations. Will you make an effort for reconciliation between Mauritania and Senegal, between Libya and Chad—at the African level—and also between Syria and Iraq, and between Morocco and the Sahara Republic at the Arab level?

[President] If you think I can make miracles I would like to tell you that I am not a man of miracles. I exert my utmost effort in cooperation with Arab and African countries. No one alone can bring about reconciliations but as chairman of the Organisation of African Unity for one year, I shall do my utmost to pave the way for solution and reconciliation. No miracles can be achieved in one year and no problems can be solved so quickly as some imagine. If I do not reach a solution, my successor can continue the effort. But we have to lay down a good basis for relations among countries.

[Question] From time to time, some Arab newspapers like to say that restoration of relations between Egypt and each of Syria and Libya was imminent. How far is such an expectation true?

[President] There are no problems as far as our relations with Syria are concerned. I have been saying this for some time. As regards relations with Libya, Libya does not open embassies in other countries but our contacts with Libya are continuing. Following the Arab summit (in Morocco) and my meeting with President al-Qadhdhafi we opened our borders, by land, air and sea. Libyans come to Egypt and Egyptians go to Libya.

Preparations are currently underway to open a Libyan people's bureau in Egypt. Preparations are also underway to open an Egyptian embassy in Libya. There are no problems in relations between the two countries.

[Question] Will there be joint Egyptian-Libyan communique?

[President] This will depend on the circumstances of each country. But relations and contacts between the two countries are continuing. An Egyptian delegation under Dr Yusuf Wali (deputy premier and minister of irrigation and land reclamation) will go to Libya to attend celeberations of the September 1 revolution in Libya. I believe this would give you an indication of the direction of relations between Egypt and Libya. We wish to have good relations with our neighbours. Libya is our neighbour in the West. Our relations with Libya are progressively improving. Libyan airlines are booked for weeks ahead.

[Question] These days you are making tireless efforts to find solutions for some outstanding problems like the tragedy in Lebanon. What are the prospects of finding a solution for this problem?

[President] You are speaking of the most difficult problems in the area. The Lebanese problem is a very complicated problem. Many countries are trying to help Lebanon to surivive. I think the only solution for Lebanon to be stable and independent is the withdrawal of all foreign forces, without exception, from Lebanese territory. This is the only solution. The point is (?finding) a way for the withdrawal of these forces: The Israeli forces, some Iranian forces, the Syrian forces. Without the withdrawal of these three forces from Lebanon, it would be hopeless for Lebanon to be stable. If a plan could be drawn for the withdrawal of these forces simultaneously or in any other manner to be agreed upon, the Lebanese factions can sit around a table and solve their own problems without any outside interference.

[Question] Do you see an end soon to the stones intifadah which is about to complete two years?

[President] The stones intifadah was spontaneous. Nobody arranged for it. People felt they were subjected to injustice, pressure and slavery and they launched their intifadah. Anybody who claims that he was behind the intifadah or can be behind it is making an untrue claim. An end to the intifadah depends on Israel herself. Israel has to move to solve the issue. I have told them this a hundred times. Israel has to move in the right direction to solve the Palestine issue and give hope that negotiations can be initiated with the Palestinian parties. I believe that this is the only way to encourage the people waging the stones intifadah to ease the situation in the hope that the issue is on the way to be solved. If anyone can claim that he could stop the indifadah when such a hope was not in sight, I think he would be mistaken. The problem has many sides and is difficult. In our estimation, the intifadah will not abate unless those waging it see hope that things were moving in the direction of a solution.

[Question] What possibilities are there for a solution of the south Sudan problem and when to expect such a solution? Do you agree with what is said about hidden elements trying to create a conflict between the Arab and Negro elements in the African Continent?

[President] Here is a trend to create such a conflict, but this is nonsense. There are problems in the African Continent inside the countries themselves: in South Africa, in Angola, in Burundi. Many—if not all countries—have problems. A struggle between the Arabs and Africans is fictitious. All who live on the land of Africa are Africans, regardless of colour or religion. A man of whatever colour or religion belongs to the land and flag of the country in which he lives. There is no cause for conflicts. Any conflicts that flare up have hidden hands behind them which try to create a state of instability. It is not in our interest, in our country or in the African Continent in general, to encourage such a trend because it is not in the interest of the continent. Anyone who encourages conflicts does not wish stability for the peoples of the African Continent. We are helping in efforts to find a solution to the south Sudan problem. We have been extending a helping hand since the days of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi but there had been no response. We talked with (Ethiopian) President Mengistu and he welcomed our efforts. We talked with the parties so that they might help in seeking a solution. I believe that the new Sudanese leadership is moving in the direction of a solution.

[Question] Do you expect a solution shortly for the issue of Third World countries' debts, which is the main problem? What possibilities exist for such a solution and what are its dimensions?

[President] I cannot discuss the possibilities and dimensions of such a solution because I do not speak in the name of rich countries. But I can say that if there is no dialogue between North and South (between rich and middle and poor countries) to discuss debts of Third World countries there will be a world economic catastrophe which will affect rich and poor countries alike. The production of rich countries will be reduced and some of their factories will become idle because poor countries will not import from rich countries. To whom do rich countries sell their products? They sell to the poor countries which are the consumers of products manufactured in rich countries. If rich countries do not find markets for their products, they will face an economic collapse and unemployment. There is one important point. When oil prices dropped from 40 to between 8 and 10 dollars per barrel, rich countries which used to pay between 40 and 38 dollars for a barrel of oil, paid betwen 8, 10, 12 and 15 dollars. They saved huge amounts of money. Where did this saved money go? It has become a surplus and consequently these countries

should help poor countries. Rich countries benefit from the difference in the prices of oil and also from the prices of manufactured products. This represents a big burden on poor countries.

[Question] Some hint that leasing military bases to the United States would relieve Egypt of her economic problems. What is your comment?

[President] Whoever circulates such a talk knows nothing. Any such person is a person who wishes to be colonised. We do not sell our land. We have ousted imperialism and foreign powers. We have not given bases to any foreign quarter. I am not prepared to see this happen. It would not solve our problems. Foreign occupation did not solve Egypt's economic problems in the past. The economic problems of which Egypt is suffering today began after the Second World War when our country was under British occupation, when, in the past, the price of an egg was one milliemme and the price of a loaf of bread was half a piastre only [words indistinct] there was a cost of living allowance. Despite these prices high cost always exists. If we say there is a high cost of living, there is also a high cost of living in Europe. For instance, a bottle of Coca Cola is sold in Egypt for 25 or 30 piastres. In France it is sold for about 23 francs (i.e. about eight Egyptian pounds); a loaf of bread is sold in Egypt for five piastres; in France or Britain it is sold at many times that price (its price could amount to four Egyptian pounds). I am giving these examples so that Egyptian citizens may see the big difference in prices. If wages in European countries are high, the prices are also high. Some people in Europe cannot buy a full loaf of bread. They buy only one slice or two or three slices. This is not the case in Egypt.

'Abd-al-Majid Leaves for Belgrade 31 Aug

NC3108084589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 31 Aug (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo for Belgrade this morning to attend the ninth preparatory meeting of the nonaligned foreign ministers which starts in Belgrade on Monday.

In a predeparture statement, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Nonaligned Movement summit comes when the movement needs to catch up with changes in the international arena. He added that the meeting will have important results in view of the meetings that will be held at the summit level and the important political and economic issues that will be discussed.

Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that President Husni Mubarak's speech to the summit will include the outlines of Egypt's efforts in the coming stage following his Excellency's chairmanship of the OAU. He added that the president's speech will also touch on the contribution needed to boost the peace movement and economic development and to confront debt problems and the burden they put on the developing countries.

Concluding his statement, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Nonaligned Movement will at the same time work to define its course of action in view of the new international changes.

Communique Accuses Police of Torturing Detainees

NC3008181189 Paris AFP in English 1721 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, Aug 30 (AFP)—The Egyptian Human Rights League on Wednesday accused police of torturing and improperly treating 52 persons arrested last week for allegedly belonging to the Egyptian Communist Workers Party.

In a communique to the press, the organization accused the police of putting prisoners in solitary confinement, and beating them with clubs and electric truncheons.

The Party of the Patriotic Progressive Unionist Rally, a Marxist and Nasirite opposition group, said in a communique that several prisoners have begun a hunger strike.

The strike will continue until torture stops and prison conditions improve, said the party, of which most of those detained are members.

The Human Rights League said 10 prisoners in particular had been badly treated, including a prominent researcher-journalist, a lawyer, and two of its own members.

Signs of police brutality were established by a member of the public prosecutor's office and a delegation headed by Makram Muhammad Ahmad of the Journalists' Union, the organization said.

The human rights group said it had informed 20 international organizations about the improper treatment and torture, including the United Nations Human Rights Commission and Amnesty International.

The 52 were arrested for allegedly belonging to the Egyptian Communist Workers Party, an underground trade union aiming to overthrow the social and political order, the Egyptian news agency MENA reported last Thursday.

MENA cited security services as saying that the trade unionists had tried to exploit disturbances this month at a metallurgical complex in Al-Tibbin near Hulwan, just south of Cairo.

Police arrested 104 people when they raided the factory August 2 to end a strike. Several people were reported injured, including one who died later of his injuries.

The prosecutor of the Superior Court of State Security meanwhile Wednesday ordered the release of 28 persons arrested in connection with the strike, MENA said.

Ninety people have now been released, including two groups of 31 persons each freed earlier this week.

Crude Oil Prices To Increase by 15 Cents 1 Sep

NC3108135889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 31 Aug (MENA)—The Egyptian petroleum authority has decided to raise the selling price of crude oil by 15 cents per barrel as of tomorrow, 1 September. This was stated today by Hammad Ayyub, deputy chairman of the petroleum authority for foreign trade affairs. He said the pricing committee met today to consider oil prices for September. The new prices will be as follows:

Suez Gulf and Ra's al-Bihar crude oil	$ 15.15;
Bala'im crude	$ 14.30;
Badran crude	$ 13.15;
Gharib crude	$ 12.80.

New Oil Well Discovered in Gulf of Suez

JN3108074889 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 29 Aug 89 p 1

[By Khalid Jabir]

[Excerpt] A new oil well has been discovered in the Gulf of Suez.

Chemist 'Abd-al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, has stated that the new discovery lies to the north of the Uktubar field and that the primary production well at the new site produces 20,000 barrels per day with a 40-degree quality—that is one of the best qualities of crude oil.

The minister of petroleum charged Dr Hamdi al-Banbi, head of the Petroleum Corporation, with following up the development of the new discovery with the producing company. [passage omitted]

Paper Welcomes Kuwaiti Amir's Cairo Visit

JN3108082089 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 29 Aug 89 p 5

[Editorial: "Great Importance of the Cairo Talks"]

[Text] The splendor and warmth of the popular welcome accorded to the great Kuwaiti amir, His Highness Amir Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, ever since he set foot in Cairo show the amount of love, pride, and appreciation which the people of Egypt hold for a prominent Arab leader whose stands are always marked with wisdom and far-sightedness and whose heart is full of love, not only for the Arab and Islamic peoples, but for all peoples on earth, especially those facing difficult conditions. The whole world vouched for this when he proposed his historic initiative before the United Nations to contribute toward a radical solution to the problem of Third World debts.

The talks that President Mubarak and his great guest—the Kuwaiti amir—are due to hold are very significant both in their timing and in the importance of the Arab, African, and international issues that will be dealt with. All these issues are related to conditions that require a swift Arab move to contain exploding situations which threaten the peace and security of the Arab region and which involve certain Arab sides. These include the deteriorating situation in Lebanon, the Israeli belligerence in the occupied Palestinian territories and southern Lebanon, the continued state of no war and no peace in the Gulf region, and the debt problem which burdens African and Third World states.

The serious turning point which the Arab nation is going through during this stage of its history, calls for quick coordination of stands in a manner that will reflect the effectiveness of Arab solidarity and show the determination to confront all crises and challenges facing the Arab peoples.

Undoubtedly, the talks between Mubarak and the Kuwaiti amir, on which all attention is focused, will bring about results which aim to bolster the serious cooperation that will be capable of confronting the grave political and security circumstances currently facing the Arab world.

Furthermore, the Egyptian-Kuwaiti summit meeting is undoubtedly a bright spot in the thick fog that recently surrounded the Arab region. This is because both leaders enjoy great appreciation and respect in the Arab and international arenas.

Libya

Further Reportage on Peace Agreement With Chad

APS Reports Signing

LD3108112189 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Algiers, 31 August (APS)—Libya and Chad signed Thursday [31 August] here an agreement for the peaceful settlement of the Chadian Libyan border dispute.

The agreement was signed by the secretary of the Libyan Committee of External Relations, Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi and the Chadian minister of external relations, Shaykh Ibn-Oumar, in presence of Algerian foreign minister, Boualem Bessaieh.

Negotiations Detailed

AB3108111889 Paris AFP in French 1017 GMT 31 Aug 89

[By Bernard Loth]

[Excerpts] Paris, 31 Aug (AFP)—A little more than 1 month after the unsuccessful meeting in Bamako between the leader of the Libyan revolution, Mu'ammar

al-Qadhdhafi, and Chadian President Hissein Habre. Chad and Libya have succeeded in reaching an agreement to settle their 17-year-old territorial dispute over the Aouzou Strip. The foreign ministers of the two countries—Acheikh Ibn-Oumar of Chad and Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi of Libya—today in Algiers signed an outline agreement to find a political settlement to their dispute or to refer it to the International Court of Justice at The Hague for a ruling if they fail to reach such as settlement within 1 year.

This sudden development occurs on the eve of the celebration in Libya of the 20th anniversary of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's assumption of power and a few days before the Belgrade nonaligned summit.

The agreement was worked out in total secrecy. A Libyan delegation comprising Colonel Radwan Saleh Radwan, the former commander of the Libyan troops in Chad; and Hamed al-Khudayri, Libyan ambassador to Paris, and a Chadian delegation comprising Korom Ahmed, minister delegate in the Presidency in charge of general inspectorate and state control; and the Chadian ambassador to Paris, Ahmad Allam-Mi, worked for 4 days—from 21 to 25 August—in a residence outside Paris that was made available by an Algerian businessman, Djillali Mehri.

They wrote and initialed an outline agreement that was signed today in Algiers at a ceremony placed under the auspices of Algeria, in the presence of Algerian Foreign Minister Boualem Bessaieh. Apart from a legal settlement, the outline agreement makes for, according to informed sources in Paris, "additional measures" on the withdrawal of forces from the disputed region, under the control of African observers, the freeing of all war prisoners, the cessation of all forms of hostility by the media, noninterference in the internal affairs of the two countries, and the signing of a treaty of friendship and good neighborliness.

A joint commission will be set up to see to the implementation of the agreement. Lastly, the two countries have the possibility to call on the OAU ad hoc committee, presided over by the Gabonese head of state, Omar Bongo. The Algiers agreement is the result of 2 years of negotiations, mediations, back and forth movements, and secret or open discussions. [passage omitted]

Observers note that there is no mention in the outline agreement of the presence of the French troops in Chad, a presence which had been a stumbling block at the Bamako meeting. Ndjamena had then announced through its ambassador in Paris, Allam-Mi, that the presence of the French troops posed no threat to anyone and that it was Chad's sovereign right to have them there.

Officials Cited on Accord

LD3108134489 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The main news from today's second news bulletin concerns the border dispute between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and Chad. The Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah and the Republic of Chad signed this morning at the al-Mithaq residence in Algiers an outline agreement for a peaceful settlement to the Libyan-Chadian border dispute.

The agreement was signed on the Libyan side by Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation, and on the Chadian side by Acheikh Ibn-Oumar, minister of foreign affairs, in the presence of Mr Boualem Bessaieh, Algerian minister of foreign affairs.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Algiers, in Egypt's capacity as the current OAU chairman, and the Gabon charge d'affaires in Algiers, in his country's capacity as the current chairman of the African committee on solving the Libyan-Chadian dispute. Our radio correspondent, Messaoud Belatiour, was present as the signing ceremony, and recorded the statement of the Libyan secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign liaison and International Cooperation, Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi:

[Begin Al-Talhi recording] In the name of God, the merciful, and the compassionate. Excellencies, colleagues. To start with, I would like to pay a respect that I am glad to perform: It is to express thanks to brothers, His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, to brother Boualem Bessaieh, to the Algerian Government and to the people for the continuous efforts and the responsible determination they showed. These efforts did not weaken for a single day. They have culminated in the results that we are witnessing today, all this stemmed from the fraternal relations existing between the two fraternal countries. We express our thanks and gratitude to the Algerian president, Government, and people.

I am also pleased to thank the African efforts that have consolidated to achieve what we have realized today. I would like to single out His Excellency President Omar Bongo, chairman of the committee set up by the OAU. We are all aware of its efforts to achieve the results that are in front of us today. As a Libyan official, I would also like to express thanks to our brothers in Chad for the constructive position and the responsible brotherhood they have been showing all along, particularly during the preparation of the treaty that we have signed today. [end recording]

Our radio correspondent, Messaoud Belatiour, has also recorded the statement of the Chadian minister of foreign affairs. The Chadian minister of foreign affairs said that among the sincere initiatives and efforts deployed throughout the negotiations, one should stress the role of President Chadli Bendjedid and the brotherly Algerian people, who enjoy a considerable trust and ethical as well as political weight in the African and international arenas. This enabled us today, on this Algerian soil that has been watered by the blood of 1 ½ million martyrs, to sign this agreement.

[Begin Acheikh Ibn-Oumar recording—in French followed by Arabic translation] The Chadian people, Government, and President Hissein Habre personally again express thanks to the Algerian people, Government, and party as well as to President Chadli Bendjedid. On this occasion, we are called to express our thanks and gratitude to the African states and to the OAU in particular, which since 1977 had set up an African committee in charge of finding a peaceful settlement to the Chadian-Libyan conflict, while this was considered an impossibility. [end recording]

Minister of Foreign Affairs Boualem Bessaieh, made the following statement:

[Begin Bessaieh recording] Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of Algeria I would like to congratulate the two fraternal countries on this agreement. Likewise, I congratulate the whole African Continent that turns a new page on the relations existing between the two fraternal peoples. [end recording] [passage omitted]

'Text' of Agreement

LD3108204689 Rabat MAP in French 1830 GMT 31 Aug 89

["Chad-Libya Agreement: Text of the Chad-Libya Outline Agreement"—MAP headline]

[Text] Paris (MAP) [dateline as received]—The following is the text of the outline agreement on the settlement of the Chadian-Libyan territorial dispute signed on Thursday [31 August] in Algiers and published by REUTER.

Outline agreement on a peaceful settlement of the territorial dispute between the Republic of Chad and the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah:

The Republic of Chad, for its part, and the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, for its part,

Proceeding, on the one hand, from the OAU resolutions particularly resolution AHG/Res 6 (XXV) on the Chadian-Libyan territorial dispute, and on the other hand, from the fundamental principles of the United Nations Organization (...)

Have decided to conclude this agreement:

Article 1. The two countries undertake to settle their territorial dispute, first by all political means, including conciliation, within 1 year, as a period of reference, unless the heads of state agree otherwise.

Article 2. Failing a political settlement of their territorial dispute, the two parties undertake:

a. To refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice for judgment;
b. To take accompanying measures to the jurisdictional settlement, namely on the retreat of the two countries' forces from the positions they currently occupy in the disputed region on 25 August 1989, under the supervision of a commission of African observers, and also to refrain from any new deployment under any form whatsoever in the said region;
c. To implement this retreat to distances to be agreed;
d. To observe the said accompanying measures until the International Court of Justice makes a definitive ruling on the international dispute.

Article 3. All POW's are to be released.

Article 4. The Republic of Chad and the Great Socialist Peoples Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah reiterate their decisions on the cease-fire established between them, and in addition they undertake to cease all forms of hostility, particularly:

a. To cease all hostile media campaigns;
b. To refrain from interfering directly or indirectly, in any way, under any pretext, and in any circumstances, in the internal affairs of their respective countries;
c. To refrain from all political, material, financial, and military support for any forces hostile to one or other of the two countries;
d. To sign a treaty of friendship, good-neighborliness, and economic and financial cooperation between the two countries.

Article 5. The two parties have decided to set up a mixed commission that will be charged with drawing up the arrangements aimed at implementing this agreement, and with making sure that all the necessary measures are taken to this effect.

Article 6. The OAU ad-hoc committee on the Chadian-Libyan dispute will be designated to insure the progress of the application of the measures of this agreement.

Article 7. The Republic of Chad and the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah undertake to notify the United Nations Organization and the OAU of this agreement.

Article 8. This agreement becomes valid on the date of its signature.

Signed in Algiers, 31 August 1989

Decree Reorganizes Armed Forces Command

LD0109011589 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 2358 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Aug (JANA)—On the basis of the historic announcement of the establishment of people's authority and of clause five of the great green document on human rights in Jamahiriyah society, as affirmation of the abolition of the traditional army, and in implementation of the resolutions of people's congresses at their third ordinary session of 1980 which were drafted by the general meeting of people's congresses, people's committees, trade unions, and professional bodies of the General People's Congress at their sixth ordinary session on 3-7 January 1981 granting the supreme commander

the authority to issue and amend military rules, and on the basis of the authorities stipulated in rule 40 of 1974 and its amendments, rule 35 of 1977 and amended rule five of 1978, it has been decided:

Article 1. To establish a committee to be called "the General Committee for Defense" and to give it the responsibility of organizing the armed people to defend the Jamahiriyah and people's authority which is based on people's congresses, people's committees, socialism, and the Great al-Fatih [1 September] revolution.

Article 2. The General Committee for Defense will be composed of the following:

a. Secretary of the general committee for defense;
b. Chief of staff of the armed people on duty;
c. Chief of staff of the local popular defense;
d. Chief of staff of Jamahiriyah guard;
e. Chief of staff of Air Defenses;
f. Chief of staff of the Navy;
g. The inspector general;
h. Director of intelligence;
i. Director of reconnaissance;
j. Director of operations;
k. Director of training;
l. Director of organization and administration.

Article 3. All former titles will be abolished wherever they occur in rules and resolutions which are in force at the time when this decree is issued and will be replaced by the following titles:

The General Committee for Defense instead of the General Command of the Armed Forces;

Secretary of the General Committee for Defense instead of the commander general of the Armed Forces;

The armed people instead of the Armed Forces.

Article 4. The General Committee for Defense will exercise all the authorities vested, on the basis of rules in force, formerly in the commander general of the Armed Forces, and it is allowed to delegate some of its authorities to its secretary in accordance with the law.

Article 5. This decree will be in force as of the date of its issuance and all rules which contradict it will be abolished. It will be published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the supreme commander

Issued on 1 September 1989

World Leaders Arrive for Al-Fatih Anniversary

Egypt's Yusuf Wali

LD3108121389 Tripoli JANA in English 1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Aug (JANA)—Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture of fraternal Egypt, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tripoli this morning to take part in the Libyan Arab people's festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the al-Fatih revolution.

Syria's President Al-Asad

LD3108161989 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1501 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, 31 Aug (JANA)—President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the fraternal Syrian Arab Republic, arrived at al-Mu'aytiqih Airport at 1515 this afternoon for a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah to take part in the Libyan Arab people's festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the great al-Fatih revolution.

President Hafiz al-Asad was received by a grand official and popular reception; the brother leader of the revolution was in the forefront of those who welcomed him. Staff Major 'Abd-al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, Colonel Abu-Bakr Jabir Yunis and Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi also took part in the welcoming ceremony.

Al-Asad Comments

JN3108190489 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1745 GMT 31 Aug 89

[TV correspondent's dispatch from Tripoli—recorded]

[Excerpts] Gentlemen: Good evening. Greetings from the Libyan capital of Tripoli where His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad arrived at 1245 Tripoli time to join celebrations for the 20th anniversary of the 1st September revolution. Heading the welcoming party at the airport was brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1st September revolution. [passage omitted]

The president replied to newsmen's questions in the following way:

[Correspondent] Over the past 20 years, the great 1st September revolution has been engaged in a pan-Arab, unionist struggle that has produced numerous milestones in contemporary Arab history. How do you rate this role and how do you see the future of the Arab world and the Arab nation in our extensive homeland?

[Al-Asad] I think each and every Libyan citizen must know the depth of feeling felt by their brother citizens in Syria toward them and their country. We recognize the Libyan Jamahiriyah's role—especially since the 1st September revolution. There is no doubt that the revolution has given a strong boost to this great people who have history, heritage, and tradition behind them. The revolution has built on these traditions and heritage and has made contributions to put this people in an advanced position and has boosted their ability to contribute further to the history of their nation, its progress and prosperity. We all look forward to a flourishing Arab future and trust the future will be better than the present. Actually, from this angle—the angle of the state of affairs

of the nation as a whole—we cannot say that the Arab nation is in better shape now than in the past. It may be in comparison with the very recent past. But it does not stand comparison with our great past. We look back to the past for inspiration, and if we fail to duplicate the achievements of our fathers and forefathers or even surpass them, at least we ought not to do less than they did for the masses of the nation and for the succeeding generations. We look forward to cooperation. On that score, I think, my viewpoint and that of the brother colonel are mostly identical. From this angle too, we look to the future where we will build together and make effective contributions to our nation's standing, dignity, and prosperity. [passage omitted]

The president is accompanied on the visit by an official delegation composed of Vice President Abd-al-Halim Khaddam; Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, member of the [Arab Socialist Ba'th] Party's Regional Command; and 'Abd-al-Ghani Qannut, member of the central command of the National Progressive Front; and Minister of Eduction Ghassan Halabi. [passage omitted]

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat

LD3108162289 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 31 Aug (JANA)—Brother Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Tripoli this afternoon to take part in the Libyan Arab people's festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the great al-Fatih revolution. Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi was in the forefront of those who welcomed brother Yasir 'Arafat. [passage omitted]

Italy's Foreign Minister

LD3108224889 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 2203 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 31 Aug (JANA)—Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis and his delegation arrived in Tripoli this evening to take part in the Libyan Arab people's celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the great al-Fatih revolution. In a statement to JANA at Tripoli International Airport, he said: I thank the Libyan Arab people and the leader of their revolution for the invitation extended to the Italian Government, which I have the honor to represent at the popular celebrations. [passage omitted]

The Italian foreign minister went on to say: Italy always encourages dialogue and the setting aside of disputes, and welcomes any serious step that strengthens and consolidates the scope for peace and stability, especially in the Mediterranean arena, and that our two countries should share interests and responsibilities in an atmosphere free from suspicion. [passage omitted]

More Foreign Guests Arrive

LD3109211589

[Editorial report] Tripoli JANA in Arabic and English at 0708 GMT on 31 August begins carrying a further series of Tripoli-datelined reports on the arrival of foreign dignitaries participating in the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the al-Fatih revolution.

As of filing time, the arrivals reported by JANA include: Ahmad Mohamed Lamine Ould N'diaye, permanent secretary of the Mauritanian Military Committee for National Salvaltion; Yaovo Adodo, Togolese foreign minister; Didier Ratsiraka, president of Madagascar; Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen; El Hadj Omar Bongo, president of Gabon; Tadist Tamirath, described by JANA as "president of the Central Committee and president of the Ethiopian workers union; and Colonel Mamadou Baldet, Guinean interior minister.

JANA also reports the arrival of an Iranian delegation headed by Mohammad Sadeq Khalkhali, "member of the Islamic shura council in Iran." Khalkhali is quoted as stressing the depth of relations between Iran and Libya, and pointing out that "Iran is with the Great Jamahiriyah against imperialism and Zionism."

Tripoli Television in Arabic at 1415 GMT on 31 August begins a relay of the celebrations which includes the arrival of the following leaders: Lieutenant-General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council; Jerry Rawlings, president of Ghana; Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, president of Tunisia; Chadli Benjedid, president of Algeria; Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of Mozambique; and King Hassan II of Morocco, who disembarks from his ship. The arrival of Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki and Interior Minister Driss Basri is noted in a separate JANA report.

Mauritania

Egypt's Mubarak To Begin Mediation With Senegal

PM3008114789 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Aug 89 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "Mauritanian Information Minister Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mubarak To Begin Mediation Next Month"]

[Excerpts] Tunis, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau—Mauritanian Information Minister Mohamed Lemine Oul Ahmed has announced that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will visit Nouakchott on 6 September in the course of his mediation between Mauritania and Senegal in his capacity as Organization of African Unity [OAU] chairman.

In a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the Mauritanian minister said: Mali President Moussa Traore's mediation produced no results because of the Senegalese authorities' procrastination and impossible conditions made during the negotiations in separating pending issues between the two countries. [passage omitted]

In Cairo, informed sources have confirmed that President Mubarak entrusted Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali with the task of preparing a draft agreement for the settlement of the Mauritania-Senegal dispute to be submitted to the leaders of the two countries when he visits them next month.

The sources said that in his capacity as OAU chairman President Mubarak will seek the agreement of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and Mauritanian President Ould Taya to meet at a bilateral summit to settle the dispute and prevent its escalation. [passage omitted]

Anti-Moroccan Demonstrations Reported

AB3108090789 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0730 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The multinational airline, Air Afrique, will no longer fly between Dakar and Nouakchott. These flights have been suspended at the request of Mauritania following the break in diplomatic ties with Senegal on 21 August.

In another development, several hundreds of Mauritanians repatriated from Senegal yesterday demonstrated against Morocco in several suburbs of the Mauritanian capital, Nouakchott, and in front of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco before being dispersed by the law enforcement agencies. The demonstrators carried placards and shouted slogans hostile to Morocco which they accuse of having taken sides with Senegal against their country since the beginning of the crisis between Dakar and Nouakchott.

Sudan

Peace Talks' 2d Round Reportedly To Start Soon

EA3108115589 Khartoum SUNA in English 0950 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Khartoum, 31 August—The second round of peace talks between the government and Garang's movement will start within the few coming days and will concentrate on the main issues, such as the system of governing and religious and cultural differences, member of the salvation revolution and head of Sudan's delegation to the peace talks Col. Muhammed al-Amin Khalifah said in a press statement yesterday.

Khalifah said that the government delegation to the talks will be expanded to include national negotiators from the south and the north. The coming stage of the peace talks is to consider more necessary stages for laying down the basis of peace Khalifah said. Regarding the current information escalation between the two sides Khalifah affirmed that this escalation did not mean the end of negotiations, indicating that the two sides agreed on continuing contacts between each other. Khalifah further reaffirmed that the peace solution to the southern Sudan problem is the best solutions, because all those involved in the current war in the south are Sudanese.

RCC Member Interviewed on Contacts With SPLM

JN3108203089 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 30 Aug 89 p 25

[Interview with Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, member of the Revolution Command Council, by Ahmad Hanaqah in Khartoum; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Hanaqah] You were head of the government delegation to last week's negotiations [with the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) in Addis Ababa]. How do you assess those negotiations?

[Khalifah] I believe the results are a good beginning, as we have announced. The session was a preparatory one, not a negotiation session on the substantive issues for which the movement has taken up arms. The talks were real, brave, and fruitful for the following reasons:

1. We have created a channel for direct contact between us without the need for a third party. In the past, we had to go through intermediaries. Now, I can contact the movement leaders directly—today, tomorrow, or at any time. I can also negotiate with them in my official capacity. There are no barriers between us now.

2. We have agreed to reactivate the relief operations and protect people's interests in the war zones in the south. This implies a cease-fire. This means we will provide relief under cease-fire conditions.

3. The dialogue will continue between us. We will very soon contact the movement to discuss substantive matters in order to eliminate this problem which has disturbed and paralyzed the Sudanese people.

[Hanaqah] Has Ethiopia played a role in paving the way for these negotiations?

[Khalifah] Actually, Ethiopia has played the role of "the land." By that I mean that it provided the venue and the security. But as I said, there were no intermediaries. We as Sudanese can solve our problems without the need for mediators.

[Hanaqah] While we are talking about Ethiopia, what role is expected of Sudan to bring the Eritrean revolutionaries and the Ethiopian Government to the negotiating table?

[Khalifah] Indeed, the situation is very similar. As you know our Eritrean brothers are present on Sudanese territory. Given our seriousness and status, and following the national salvation revolution and the establishment of good neighborly relations with Ethiopia and other African neighbors and also Arab states such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia, we believe that we can play a helping role by achieving peace in the entire region.

[Hanaqah] In your opinion, has the movement gone back on stands it declared previously during negotiations with the political parties government?

[Khalifa] I believe so. In the past, the movement dictated and the Sudanese negotiating sides responded. Now, however, we want to discuss all matters concerning the whole of Sudan without any conditions. The movement also agreed to negotiate without any conditions. So we sat together and began the discussion. We went further than that. We agreed to sit together once again to achieve peace in the southern part of our dear homeland.

[Hanaqah] Do you believe that the Garang movement actually sticks to the November 1988 agreement with the Unionist Democratic Party and the 1986 Koka Dam agreement? Or is this a mere tactic to achieve further gains?

[Khalifah] They say things and make demands. Of course, this is normal in negotiations between two warring parties. We entered the room of negotiations without preconditions. This necessarily means that we carried no past agreements with us. Having no preconditions means we are bound by nothing from the past. All that will bind us is what we will agree over now or in the future. Thus, you see, agreements are preconditions. I believe the movement has changed its stand on these agreements because they know that these agreements have become superseded due to the new political situation in Khartoum. The agreements, in this sense, are irrelevant. The movement leaders are now ready to sit at the negotiating table once again and without preconditions. Those pacts are outdated. However, their positive points only may be taken into consideration and in the interest of both sides. We are not responsible for the negative side which hampers the negotiations and we will pay no attention to it.

[Hanaqah] Did the rebels seem to have a clear and specific program to establish peace in Sudan?

[Khalifah] Actually, we found no such program. However, we found agreements between individuals as well as initiatives which may serve as a path to an agreement. In these activities, no agreements were signed. Therefore, such activities are not considered legal agreements. The individuals who presented intiatives adhere to their initiatives, perhaps because these agreements meet their aspirations. For our part, we completely disagree with their basis of negotiations. However, we will draw up a comprehensive, urgent program that satisfies all parties. [passage omitted]

[Hanaqah] Where does the U.S. role in peace efforts stand? And what are the aims of former President Carter's visits to Sudan and Ethiopia?

[Khalifah] The Americans do not have any role in the current stage apart from giving their blessing. However, there is no action [preceding word in English]. They are very interested in the issue of establishing peace in Sudan. During his visit, Jimmy Carter asked Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir to let him mediate in this problem. Lt Gen al-Bashir's reply was a strong and explicit rejection. He said: "We can solve our problems without the intervention of a third party." And this is what happened. [passage omitted]

UN Envoy Arrives in Khartoum 30 Aug

EA3108064789 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] James Grant, personal representative of the UN secretary general and executive director of UNICEF, has arrived in Khartoum on a 2 day visit during which he will acquaint himself with the progress of the Lifeline operations. He will also meet state officials, representatives of donor states, and representatives of U.N. organizations.

James Grant declared that 3,000 tonnes of foodstuffs and medicines had been transported to southern Sudan during the past 2 weeks. He added, in a statement distributed in Nairobi, that 1,800 tonnes had been transported to four stations between al-Rank and Malakal, and pointed out that several steamers will leave Kosti during the next few days. He expects [words indistinct] to the affected areas. The statement explained that the fourth [word indistinct] train arrived in Aweil (?on 5th August), carrying 1,500 tonnes of foodstuffs to the affected areas in a trip free from obstacles.

To Meet SPLA in Kenya

EA3108202489 Khartoum SUNA in English 1650 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 31 August—UNICEF executive director, the representative of the UN secretary general to supervise the UN-sponsored relief operations in Sudan, James Grant, has announced that he will hold talks with leaders of the Sudan People's Liberation Front, SPLA [as received], during his visit to Kenya next Saturday.

Interviewed today by SUNA, Mr Grant said he will discuss with the SPLA leaders [word indistinct] the movement's backing to the relief operation and its guarantees to keep the operation continuing without obstacles. In this regard, Mr Grant referred to the government's assertion that it had reached an agreement with the SPLA on keeping the operations going on. Grant explained that the operation is continuing to transport food supplies to thousands of people in the war-stricken areas in southern Sudan.

In the interview Mr Grant said he was optimistic over the realisation of peace in Sudan, referring to the success of the relief operation as an "indicator to peace." [passage omitted]

Bahrain

Diplomatic Relations Established With SFRY

JN3108160289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1434 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Manama, 31 Aug (WAKH)—The governments of the State of Bahrain and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia [SFRY] have agreed to establish diplomatic relations between them at the ambassadorial level.

The agreement was signed in Belgrade today by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah, and Yugoslav Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar. [passage omitted]

Joint Committee With Iraq Meets in Manama 31 Aug

JN3108093389 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0845 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Manama, 31 Aug (WAKH)—The sixth meeting of the Bahraini-Iraqi joint committee was held this morning in Manama.

The Bahraini side to these meetings is headed by Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Karim, minister of finance and national economy, while the Iraqi side is headed by Finance Minister Dr Hikmat 'Umar al-Hadithi.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Bahraini minister of finance and national economy delivered a speech praising the strong relations between the two countries in all fields, particularly those related to the economic, trade, and financial affairs. [passage omitted]

Amir Receives Iraqi Minister

JN3108100289 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0855 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Manama, 31 Aug (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, received here this morning Iraqi Finance Minister Hikmat 'Umar al-Hadithi and the delegation accompanying him, currently visiting Manama to attend the meetings of the Bahraini-Iraqi joint committee.

The amir praised the convening of such bilateral meetings, which aim at promoting and bolstering the strong fraternal relations between the two countries.

His highness stressed that Bahrain welcomes such fraternal meetings, which reflect positively on the peoples of the two countries. He wished the committee increasing success.

The meeting was attended by Finance and National Economy Minister Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Karim, the Ministry's Under Secretary 'Isa Bu-Rashid, and Iraqi Ambassador to Bahrain Taha al-Qaysi.

After the meeting, the Iraqi minister said he was honored to meet the amir and convey to him the greetings of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Mr 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, and their wishes of continued progress to the State of Bahrain.

He said His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah gave directives for increasing trade and economic exchange between the two countries. He said the committee will discuss various topics with a view to promoting prospects of cooperation between the two countries in the economic, financial, and commercial fields.

PDRY

Al-'Attas, Delegation Depart for Libya 31 Aug

EA3108111189 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Summary] Brother Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas, Politburo member and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, left Aden today, Thursday, at the head of a Yemeni delegation to the Libyan Socialist People's Jamahiriyah, to participate in the 20th anniversary of the al-Fatih September revolution in an invitation from his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great al-Fatih September revolution.

Al-'Attas Statement on Cooperation With Iraq

JN3008140089 Baghdad INA in English 1330 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Aden, Aug 30, INA—South Yemeni President Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas has stressed that there are wide and open prospects for further constructived cooperation in various fields between his country and Iraq.

In a statement made to INA correspondent here today, President al-'Attas said that he was looking forward with great optimism to the relations of cooperation between the two countries, pointing that since his 1988 visit to Iraq, a great deal of brotherly cooperation had been achieved between them.

He added that firm steps on the road of economic and technical cooperation had been made between Iraq and South Yemen, while further cultural and educational cooperation was set up, stressing his country's readiness for extensive cooperation.

Iraqi Official Meets Party Secretary General

EA3108104989 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, secretary general and assistant secretary of the Central Committee, met in his office, this morning, brother Nur Najmah al-Marsumi, permanent secretary of the Iraqi Ministry of Culture and Information and head of the Iraqi culture week delegation in Aden.

During the meeting, brother Salim Salih Muhammad wished for the success of the Iraqi culture week activities, which, he said, would (?contribute) to the strengthening of culture and information relations between the two countries.

He stressed Democratic Yemen's readiness to strengthen and develop the joint relations of cooperation between the two parties and peoples, in the interest of the two sisterly countries. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

Al-Faysal Receives Message From France's Dumas

LD3108164189 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1545 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 31 Aug (SPA)—His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal received French envoy Francois Scheer this afternoon. Scheer handed his highness a message from French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas related to the current situation in Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Yemen Arab Republic

Fatah Central Committee Member Arrives 31 Aug

JN3108161489 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member brother 'Abbas Zaki arrived in Sanaa today for a visit to our country during which he will hold talks with a number of brother officials about Palestinian and Arab developments.

In a statement to SABA, Zaki said his visit to our country coincides with serious regional developments. The Yemen Arab Republic is one of the countries with which contacts and consultations should be held under such circumstances, said the Fatah official.

President Replies to Arab Committee Letter

JN3108161689 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member, received this morning the ambassador of Saudi Arabia and Algeria, and the Moroccan charge d'affaires. The deputy prime minister gave them the response of brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to a letter from his brothers King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Az of Saudi Arabia, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and King Hassan of Morocco on the work of the Higher Arab Tripartite Committee on Lebanon.

Ramadan To Lead Nonaligned Summit Delegation

JN3108153289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Aug (INA)—INA has learned that Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, will lead the Iraqi delegation to the 6-day Nonaligned summit to begin in Belgrade on Monday [4 September]. The delegation will be composed of Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Tariq 'Aziz left for Belgrade this evening to participate in the preparatory ministerial meetings to be held there on Friday and Saturday [1-2 September].

Foreign Ministry Urges Immediate POW Exchange

JN3108163089 Baghdad INA in English 1600 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] United Nations, Aug. 31, INA—Iraq has called upon the United Nations, the Inrternational Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the international community bring pressure to bear on the Iranian regime to end the plight of prisoners of war.

In a letter dated Aug. 27 from the Iraqi Foreign Ministry addressed to the ICRC, copies of which were distributed to the United Nations Security Council today, Iraq called for puting pressure on Iran "to desist from blackmail and [words indistinct] with human lives, to refrain from using the prisoners as a political playing card with a view to making certain gains and to respect, fully and scrupulously, the provisions of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949."

The Iraqi letter noting that the Iranian regime had alleged that Iraqi forces captured "in an unlawful manner" some 700 Iranian military personnel inside Iranian territory after the ceasefire had been proclaimed, said that the truth of the matter was that the Iraqi Government had informed the ICRC and the secretary-general of the United Nations that the Iranian side was exploiting the adherence of Iraqi units to the ceasefire and had on Aug. 22, 1988, introduced a large number of its troops into an extensive area of no man's land in the sector to the east of Maysan.

The letter pointed out that the Iranians were warned through the United Nations Iraq-Iran Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) to withdraw to their initial positions, but they did not respond to the warning and claimed that they had orders to remain in the area where they were. It was then, the letter noted that Iraqi forces were obliged to seize the Iranians because of their failure to comply with Iraq's request that they return to their positions despite the fact that Iraq had informed the United Nations observers, who witnessed the insistence of the Iranians on remaining.

Responding to Iranian allegations that Iraq is using prisoners as a means to achieve political aims, the Iraqi letter said that the ICRC, the United Nations and the international community "know fully well that it was Iraq that was the first to call for an end to the suffering of the prisoners of war, for a definitive just and comprehensive solution to be found to the question and for the avoidance of its linkage with any political issue."

The Iraqi Foreign Ministry pointed out that it was Iran that had rejected ICRC proposals and insisted on linking the matter [words indistinct] of POW's with political issues, which [words indistinct] as it claims, accord any importance to the rules of international humanitarian law as they relate to prisoners of war and that it wishes to use those prisoners for political purposes incompatible with the humanitarian character of the issue.

The [?letter went] on to state: "The government of the Republic of Iraq in its commitment to the provisions of Article 118 of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949, once again reaffirms its readiness to put an end to the sufferings of all prisoners of war in boths Iraq and Iran and to allay the concern of their families by immediately embarking on a full and complete exchange and repatriation of prisoners of war.

"It also affirms its readiness to notify ICRC of the full names of unregistered prisoners immeditely and forthwith in the course of a complete exchange of prisoners, or directly before hand, subject to reciprocal action by the Iranian regime."

UNIIMOG Statement on Cease-Fire Anniversary

JN3108141689 Baghdad INA in English 1345 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 31, INA—The U.N. Iraq-Iran Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) has celebrated marking the 1st anniversary of ceasefire, being in force since Aug 20, between Iraq and Iran.

In a press statement here today, the observer team stressed that they had succeeded in their assigned tasks and duties to consolidate the ceasefire between the two countries, pointing out that they were well convinced that the process of ceasefire was going on firmly and satisfactorily after the passing of a whole year, as no combating was reported to have erupted between them, and normal life began to return to the war-stricken areas, which were the scene of extensive construction drives.

The U.N. observers disclosed that they had won full support and response, from all the parties and governments represented in the team, to fulfill their mission in stabilizing permanent peace and security in the region.

The UNIIMOG consists of 350 delegates from Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Canada, Denmark, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kenya,

Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Senegal, Sweden, Turkey, Urguay, Yugoslavia, and Zambia.

The team was formed on Aug 9, 1988 for a six-month first term expired in Feb 8, extended for another similar period due to end on Sep 30. It is supervised by the United Nations, and specifically Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The UNIIMOG is deployed along the 1300-km ceasefire frontline between Iraq and Iran.

It is worth mentioning that the Iranian authorities had been incessantly blocking all international appeals for a ceasefire and peace negotiations with Iraq, until the Iraqi Armed Forces inflicted heavy defeats on the Iranian troops at the warfronts as from mid April 1988 till early August instant [as received], which forced Iran to accept the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 a year after its passing.

Paper Urges Arabs To 'Abandon Compliments'

JN3108095889 Baghdad INA in English 0920 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Baghdad, Aug 31, INA—The Iraqi dailies urged today the Arab countries to make their stances clear towards Syrian interference in Lebanon and necessitated holding an immediate Arab summit.

AL-JUMHURIYAH daily said in its commentary that the Arab governments had to abandon compliments when dealing with the affair, otherwise, they would be responsible for any repercussions, stressing that the Lebanese crisis had risen to a pitch that required an urgent Arab move and serious initiative to convene an emergency Arab summit conference to dot the i's and cross the t's and take a unified Arab collective attitude which would force the Syrian regime to lift its custody off Lebanon and abide by the balanced and just Arab solution.

The paper referred to the Syrian regime's stratagems through circulating the three-nation Arab committee's statement on the Lebanese crises, saying that instead of reconsidering its suspicious stands and deviative conceptions to help find a balanced and just solution to the problem, the Syrian rule tried to breach the Arab unanimity and block taking a crucial collective stance versus it and pressing it to accept a solution that could preserve Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and unity, and guarantee the withdrawal of the Zionist, Syrian and Iranian forces from its territory.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concluded that it had there been a unified Arab stand which would deter the Syrian regime, it would have had to yield to the Arab will expressed through the Casablanca summit's resolutions. [passage omitted]

2d Katyusha Attack in 24 Hours; No Casualties

TA0109061889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Several Katyusha rockets were fired from southern Lebanon at the western Galilee this morning. There were neither casualties nor damage.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the 107-mm rockets caused a fire in an uncultivated field. Members of nearby settlements extinguished it. IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and SLA [South Lebanese Army] cannons fired back at the sources of fire north of the security zone.

Ministry Denies Colombia Requests Information

TA3108174089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has ordered the families of about 40 Israelis working in Colombia to leave the country. Rabin's spokesman said relatives of people working for the Defense Ministry, Israel Aircraft Industries, and the Tadiran Company were told to go to neighboring countries until the tension dies down. David Ze'ev has more:

[Passage omitted] The Foreign Ministry still insists that it has yet to receive a request from the Colombian Government for information concerning the activities of Israelis. In response to the claim from Bogota last night that Jerusalem is not helping the investigation, an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman said today: If they asked for help, it was not through the Israeli Embassy in Bogota. He repeated that Israel would be happy to cooperate in whatever way possible.

Further on Colombian Request

TA0109044589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] In addition to the families of people working for the Defense Ministry, the Israel Aircraft Industries, and Tadiran in Colombia, two families of embassy workers have been ordered to leave the country for the time being. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that the move was taken on the instructions of the security services.

Minister Olmert has canceled a planned visit to Colombia for fund-raising purposes. The move was taken in coordination with the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem.

The Colombian Foreign Ministry has asked Israel to relay any information it might have on Israeli military instructors' activities. The request was made in Colombia's answer to the Israeli proposal to assist Bogota in its war against drug and crime barons.

IAI Families Ordered Home

TA3108090689 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 31 Aug 89 pp A1, 2

[Report by Dan Arkin and Ran Dagoni]

[Excerpt] The families of Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] representatives in Bogota, the Colombian capital, were ordered to leave the country yesterday because of the tension there, but the representatives themselves are remaining and continuing their business activity as usual. Additional IAI workers were due to arrive in Bogota next week to train and supervise there, but their departure is no longer certain. IAI envoys recently reported to the management on tension in Bogota; it was therefore decided that the women and children would return to Israel. The IAI management in Israel refused to comment on the report.

The representative of another Israeli company last night told MA'ARIV in a telephone conversation from Bogota that "one must now be very careful here, and the management of our company is considering all possibilities." He said that reports in Israel and the United States on the Colombian affair have created "an uncomfortable situation" for Israelis working in Bogota, although there have been no threats against them and no signs that their work there will be terminated. [passage omitted]

Journalist Identifies Drug Lords With Klein

TA0109051389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 1 Sept 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] An American journalist in Bogota says he has positively identified key Colombian drug figures in the presence of Hod Hahanit Chairman Ya'ir Klein and other Israelis. Kenneth Fried, the South American affairs correspondent for THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, told reporter Alan Ben-'Ami that he made the identification as he watched a film screened for him this week by General (Miguel Macha), head of the Colombian secret police. The film shows Israelis giving weapons training to Colombians. The police in Bogota say it was captured during a raid in March on the home of a Colombian drug dealer.

[Begin recording] [Fried] We were shown videotapes that Klein himself had made training paramilitary units. The film showed well-known assassination experts hired by, or employed by the drug traffickers here in Colombia. There is no question. There was a man known as Vladimir who is one of the most notorious and well-known agents of the drug traffickers, and in fact was arrested now, 12 days ago, for the murder of 13 judicial employees, including 4 judges. There was a graduation ceremony at the end of the training period that was filmed, and there were several notable drug traffickers, including Gacha, who attended it. Well I identified it with my own knowledge and with some people I had with me who also knew.

General (Macha) equivocates on the issue of whether the Israeli trainers were teaching people that were ultimately involved in, say, the killing of the Colombian presidential candidate. What he does say, and what the film does show, is that known members of the drug cartel were involved in recruiting and paying for, and taking part in the training. [end recording]

'Amazement' Expressed at UN Decision on Deportees

TA3108185889 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem today pointed out that Israel's defense considerations guide its steps with regard to the deportation of individuals who incite violence in the territories. The spokesman expressed amazement at the fact that last night the UN Security Council convened to discuss the deportation of five inciters, but would not do the same with regard to the mass killing in Beirut carried out under Syrian auspices.

The Security Council denounced Israel for the deportation of five Palestinians at the beginning of the week, calling on it to end its policy of deportations and to recall the deportees back home at once. The resolution was passed with 14 of the 15 council members voting for it. The United States abstained, not taking advantage of its veto prerogative. Earlier, Ambassador Pickering had stressed U.S. displeasure at the deportations.

In Jerusalem, the Foreign Ministry spokesman responded by saying that there are some issues over which we and the United States do not enjoy full agreement. [passage omitted]

Ministerial-Level Visit to USSR Slated

TA0109080189 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] An Israeli minister will visit the Soviet Union next week. This will be the first visit by an Israeli minister since relations between the two countries were severed 22 years ago.

It was learned last night from sources close to Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-'Oz that the minister was invited to attend a flower exhibition in Tallinn, in the Republic of Estonia, that will also include an Israeli pavilion. Katz-'Oz was extended an official invitation, with the approval of the most senior political level in the Soviet Union. The agriculture minister is currently awaiting approval to visit Moscow in order to confer with top-level government officials. According to senior sources in Jerusalem, this invitation is yet another indication of the positive shift in Soviet policy vis-a-vis Israel.

Among other things, the sources point to an article by the influential political commentator Aleksandr Bovin published in IZVESTIYA this week. The article calls on the Soviet Government to resume relations with Israel at once, without any preconditions. The favorable report about Israeli broadcast on Soviet television last week was described in Jerusalem as a pleasant surprise, and as an exceptional approach on the part of the Soviet press which had heretofore sufficed with printing anti-Zionist propaganda. [passage omitted]

'Significance' Seen in Soviet Writer's Visit

TA3108135089 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 31 Aug 89 pp 1, 14

[Report by Orli Azulay Katz]

[Excerpt] Chingiz Aytmatov, one of the most prominent contemporary Soviet writers, and who is considered to be one of the closest people to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, will arrive in Israel on 9 September as the guest of the Foreign and the Science and Technology Ministries.

Aytmatov, a winner of the Lenin Prize for Literature, is currently chairman of the Supreme Soviet committee for culture and the promotion of national and international relations. He will be accompanied by his wife. He will visit Jerusalem, where he will meet with President Hayim Herzog, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, Science and Technology Minister 'Ezer Weizman, and Finance Minister Shim'on Peres.

Aytmatov is the highest ranking Soviet personality to visit Israel since relations with the Soviet Union were severed in 1967, and Jerusalem attaches great significance to the visit. [passage omitted]

Establishment of Hizballah in W. Bank Monitored

TA0109094389 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Sept 89 pp 1, 14

[Report by Kenneth Kaplan]

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is closely watching efforts by Hizballah to establish a foothold in the West Bank.

The issue has been discussed at the highest levels of the army.

Hizballah's first leaflet here, entitled "Communique No. 1," was distributed last Friday to worshippers at al-Aqsa mosque.

The text of the leaflet had been broadcast earlier on Syrian radio and the Hizballah radio station in Lebanon, and passed on by word of mouth until the leaflet was distributed.

Informed sources said Hizballah was attempting to fill a perceived void among Moslem extremists since the IDF's recent crackdown on Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] leaders.

The sources added that fundamentalist fervour in the territories had not abated after the crackdown, and the Islamic Jihad organization was staging a comeback by trying to provide direction for extremist passions.

For that reason the IDF and the security forces had targeted the Islamic Jihad several weeks ago.

Moslem leaders in Israel have criticized the radical Shiite organization's efforts to establish a presence in the territories.

Uprising Leadership's 'Moment of Truth' Viewed

TA0109095889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Sep 89 pp 1, 14

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Text] Few Gazans returned to work in Israel yesterday despite strong indications that the two-week stay at home is unpopular and has come to an official end.

A 'alestinian lawyer, talking to THE JERUSALEM POST, said that going back to work is vital for the Gazans. "If people don't go to work I'm afraid we'll have a civil war. Everyone is ready to shoulder the national cause, but not if he does not have bread for his children."

A leaflet signed by the "Unified Leadership of the Uprising" was distributed yesterday in the Gaza Strip, permitting Gaza workers to return to work in Israel immediately. Isolated graffiti also appeared saying the same thing. Workers of the West Bank have been allowed, according to the leaflet, to return to work since August 25.

"The enemy is trying to drive a wedge between the people and the leadership," the leaflet reads. "They try to encourage a civil war," spreading rumours that the West Bank workers and unemployed Israeli workers are taking the places of Gazans. "Let's join hands to foil the enemy's plans."

A second leaflet was distributed in the Strip yesterday signed by the previously-unknown "Reform Movement," criticising the intifadah [uprising] and its leadership. A Palestinian source said that people suspect that it might have been authored by the Israeli security services.

Explaining why Palestinians did not go to work in Israel yesterday, a Palestinian source said that the Gazans were unsure whether the leaflet and the graffiti were authentic. "The people want to check the truth behind the new declared attitude," the source said, adding that they also need back the magnetic cards, necessary to cross into Israel, which have been confiscated in many cases by Palestinian activists. "It is not easy, it's a moment of truth for the leadership," said the source.

[In a report by Eytan Rabin on page A2 of Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 1 September quotes military sources as saying that "some 15,000 laborers from the Gaza Strip sneaked into Israel last week to work in factories in the south. Although they carried the mandatory magnetic cards, they had to sneak out due to the strike declared in Gaza, and the threats of the strike committees." The reports adds that "during the past week the police in the Negev District rounded up 31 inhabitants of the territories who did not have valid permits to work in Israel. They were all arrested and will be brought to trial."]

Sharon Calls for 'Eliminating' Masked Men

TA3108082489 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 31 Aug p 1

[Report by Oren Kohen and Menahem Shizaf]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Minister Ari'el Sharon yesterday proposed eliminating the masked men in the territories and amending the law accordingly. Addressing a gathering of the Liberal Party in Herzliyya Pituah, Sharon also called on the government to initiate a bill for the speedy deportation of uprising leaders. He attacked Moshe Arens, saying: It was not Rabin who disbanded the Village Leagues.

Poll Shows 'Misperception' of Arab Wish To Leave

TA0109095089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by Elihu Katz, Majid al-Haj, and Hana Levinsohn]

[Excerpt] If a Palestinian state were established alongside Israel, Israeli Arabs will not exercise their "right of return." Like American Zionists, they will stay put. The Jews, however, do not know this.

Asked, "If a Palestinian State were established, would most Israeli Arabs be interested in joining?," 71 percent of Israeli Arabs say no, while almost as many Jews (65 percent) think the opposite. In other words, there is a major misperception of Arab intentions on the part of the Jews. Indeed, asked "If the possibility presented itself to you, would you wish to live outside Israel?" Arabs show no more interest in leaving than the Jews. Seventy-five per cent of Arabs and 80 percent of Jews opt for remaining.

That does not mean that Israeli Arabs feel altogether "at home." In reply to just this question, 45 percent of Arabs say no, compared with 11 percent of Jews. Similarly, asked whether Israeli Arabs suffer from incidents of discrimination simply because they are Arabs, fully 69 percent of Arabs say that this is the case ("very often" and "often"); only 35 percent of the Jews agree.

Notwithstanding their experience of unease, Israeli Arabs are more positive than the Jews in their assessment of both present and future. Seventy-five per cent of Israeli Arabs believe that Jewish-Arab relations in Israel today are "very good" or "good" as compared with 53 percent of Jews. Similarly, asked "Do you believe or don't you believe in the possibility of peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs in Israel, within the Green Line (i.e. not in the territories), 83 percent of Israeli Arabs and 53 percent of Jews "strongly believe" or "believe." A gap in perception is at work here, too.

There is no such gap, however, in assessment of the possibility of peaceful coexistence between Jews and the Arabs in the territories. A majority in both communities are pessimistic about this: 69 percent of Jews and 53 percent of Arabs do not believe that peaceful coexistence is possible *across* the Green Line.

Even if the territories were officially annexed by Israel—and half the Jews (53 percent) want this—there is no enthusiasm among Jews for permitting freedom of access within the Green Line.

Asked whether Arabs in the territories should be granted the right to work, to stay overnight, or to visit inside the Green Line, most Jews (63 percent) would welcome tourism, only half would grant permission to work (49 percent) and only 24 percent would permit Arab workers to sleep here. These answers apply to the situation of annexation.

If the territories were relinquished, the proportion of Jews who would grant Palestinian Arabs the right to work and sleep within the Green Line is cut by half, although tourism would still be acceptable to 52 percent. Stated otherwise, when Jews think of relinquishing the territories they don't have much sympathy for the idea that Arab workers might continue to cross the border to work here.

Most Israeli Arabs disagree. Whether the territories are annexed or relinquished, they believe that these rights of access should be granted; three quarters or more of Israeli Arabs are in favour of tourism, work and overnight stays for Arabs from the territories. [passage omitted]

Commentary on Growing Escalation in Territories

TA3108115189 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 31 Aug 89 p 15

[Commentary by Pinhas 'Inbari: "The Ball Now Crosses to the 'Club of Four'"]

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is correct in his analysis that the upsurge in the violent character of the intifadah [uprising] is a result of the deadlock in the political process, but the political developments signal much greater danger than could be gathered from Rabin's remarks.

In early August, during a tour to the Middle East by U.S. diplomat John Kelly, the dispute was over forming a Palestinian delegation of PLO supporters from the territories to begin negotiations with Israel on Shamir's election plan. On the surface, it seemed that an agreement on the setting up of a delegation was very close to being achieved. The PLO voiced its agreement in principle, but on condition that two U.S. professors—Edward Said and Ibrahim Abu-Lughod—be allowed to join. Rabin supported the demand in principle, but because of the Likud's position he believed that it would be better for the talks to start without the two professors, who would join shortly afterward. The Likud position, on the other hand, was firmly negative: Arens made clear to Kelly that the Shamir initiative was aimed only at the Palestinians in the territories—not at the PLO.

When the Americans reported to the PLO on the Israeli positions it was clear to the Palestinians that the dialogue with the Likud had terminated. The PLO gave Al-Tarifi backing to confer with Shamir as a bridge for direct contacts and not to create an alternate leadership in the territories. Shamir's proposal to Al-Tarifi to set up a Palestinian state east of the Jordan could not be acceptable to the PLO. When the PLO learned that the Likud did not agree to permit the two professors—who do not belong to a revolutionary forum of the PLO, and who have already conferred with former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz— to join the delegation, it was clearly understood that there was no chance that the Shamir-al-Tarifi meeting would lay the foundations for a Shamir meeting with 'Arafat. (The PLO's desire to form direct contacts with the Israeli Government was reiterated on Saturday by Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], 'Arafat's envoy to Amman.)

The background to the meeting showed the power not of Al-Tarifi, but the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] and its allies in Fatah itself—the cadres of the popular army—who opposed the meeting. The latter apparently form the backbone of the Unified National Command of the Uprising. The academic circles, which supervised the intifadah in its earlier stages, were replaced by a younger, more violent, and less sophisticated generation resulting from the earlier wave of releases from Qezi'ot, and the ironfisted policy adopted by Israel toward the Palestinian academics (and the deportation of a moderate such as Dr Taysir al-'Aruri of Bir Zayt is proof of that). Since the Palestinians are now much more trigger happy and since the orders permitting IDF soldiers to open fire have also been very much relaxed, masked men are easy prey, and an erosion into a violent armed confrontation is very close to reality.

The growing extremism in the territories was also strengthened by the recent Fatah congress and hardline members such as Faruq Qaddumi, who won the greatest support. 'Arafat might have been surprised that the messages from the territories were more extremist than the prevailing mood inside Fatah-Tunis. The territories gave greater support to the military wing of Abu Jihad's

supporters than to the representatives of the political wing in Tunis, and this found expression in the drafting of the article on escalating the intifadah into an armed struggle.

'Arafat inferred from the failure of Kelly's last round of talks and the extremism prevailing in the Fatah convention that the backing he had been granting to the political cadre of his supporters in the territories was leading them to political deadlock. What is more, he would not be able to vouch for their safety if despite everything it was ultimately decided to entrust them with the mission of launching political negotiations with Israel, thus risking the support his leadership enjoys among the various "strike forces." The obvious solution was to tip the scales to the "strike forces" in order to gain their support; and at the same time, to patch up relations with Jordan in order to establish a central power base in Amman, close to the West Bank, from which Fatah's strength could be rebuilt.

The experience the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] acquired from dealing with the intifadah, and the realization that Israelis are getting used to living with it, brought 'Arafat to the conclusion that the intifadah was proving futile and that he should seek the support of the entire Arab world.

Immediately after the Fatah convention 'Arafat changed the style of his utterances in a bid to endear himself to the young warriors of the intifadah rather than to Palestinian professors in strikebound universities in the West Bank. In Amman last week he spoke about an all-out civil uprising and about preparations to shift to a stage "which had better not be spoken about," namely, the armed struggle discussed at the Fatah convention. According to reports arriving in East Jerusalem, 'Arafat particularly found himself at loggerheads with the Islamic Jihad faction that remained loyal to Fatah. The latter claimed it had been losing supporters to Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and the anti-'Arafat faction of the organization, and that if nothing radical were done about the matter, the dovish image of Fatah would blow support for them to smithereens. 'Arafat refused to listen to their ideas and did not support the new appointments to the Fatah institutions, but he clearly got the message. Although he has not abandoned the political process, 'Arafat recognizes that there are no short cuts or magic formulas, and he is now leading the PLO on a sophisticated course combining an escalation in the territories with the creation of new conditions for proceeding on a political path.

'Arafat recognizes that conditions are not yet ripe for negotiations with the Likud and, consequently, that there is no sense in risking a confrontation with the PFLP, for which he is ill prepared. It seems that back in June 'Arafat sent feelers to the PFLP about a "cease-fire" in the territories. It is no secret that PFLP publications have not praised 'Arafat in years, and only 2 months ago one of its leaflets said 'Arafat no longer represented the Palestinians. Then again, on 18 June George Habash's mouthpiece published an article lavishing praise on "the Palestinian president" which came in the wake of a communique issued on the occasion of the 18th month of the intifadah in which 'Arafat clarified questions posed by the PFLP to that group's full satisfaction. This article probably is evidence of the above-mentioned feelers. If that is the case, 'Arafat even then believed that the chances of a dialogue with the Likud were close to nil, and that he needed time to organize his troops in the territories in anticipation of the next move.

As a result, the PFLP began carrying more weight than ever in the leaflets drafted by the Unified National Command. This is the main reason for the escalation in their content and style and for the fact that they reflect the PFLP's positions—such as its objection to the meetings with Shamir, to cite one example—rather than those of the people who support 'Arafat's political line.

This does not mean that affairs in the territories are being conducted today only according to George Habash's instructions. For instance, the PFLP's rivals behave exactly the same way the PFLP behaved when its influence was negligible: They ignore the leaflets and do whatever they want. A picturesque description of the situation was given by communist leader Bashir al-Barghuthi in an article in AL-TALI'AH on 27 July 1989. Those who objected to the meetings with Shamir already had a representative on the Unified National Command at that time and, consequently, Fatah's instructions to the participants were issued directly from Tunis. The communists were not let in on the secret either, and al-Barghuthi denounced this by saying that "the Unified National Command is like the wife who always is the last to know (about her husband's infidelity...)."

When it was not yet part of the Unified National Command or when it enjoyed marginal influence over it, the PFLP used to issue its own leaflets and adopt an independent line, but now it is demanding that everybody comply with them. So that others should not follow its example, the PFLP's "strike force" ("the martyr Ghassan Kanfani battalions") issued a leaflet this week denouncing "the national forces"—hinting mainly at Fatah and the communists—who adopt an independent policy about reopening schools and do not comply with orders to include the schools in the general strike.

The ease with which Fatah gave up on the Unified National Command is more than telling. Seeing that a breakthrough is not expected to come from the territories, the command's prominence declined and the weight has once again shifted to the Arab world. (Incidentally, Rabbi Levinger's demonstration outside Faysal al-Husayni's home at the beginning of the week demonstrates the threat posed to the "selected delegation" from the territories not just by the PFLP but also by the Jewish "strike force.") 'Arafat is giving supremacy to the PFLP in the Unified National Command because he is patiently building a new strategy which entails risks as well as chances.

'Arafat has begun to link the solution of the Palestinian problem to the overall strategy of the Arab Cooperation Council, made up of Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and North Yemen. 'Arafat wants to attain two main goals: to recruit Iraq's political and military might in favor of his cause so as to rebuild his base in Jordan with massive Iraqi support, and to restore his strength in the West Bank with the help of his base in Jordan.

Obviously, the improvement in his relations with the PFLP is merely temporary, seeing that 'Arafat clearly favors the Iraqi line in the Arab world against Syria. 'Arafat's entourage to Amman included 'Abd-al-Rahim Ahmad, head of the pro-Iraqi group. The session at Husayn's office in Amman was also graced with the presence of former Prime Minister Mudar Badran, known for his pro-Iraqi and anti-Syrian policies and whose position undoubtedly espouses uniting the Palestinians and Iraq in an alliance against Syria.

On Monday, 28 August, during a visit to Vienna, DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] man Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh made a statement whose importance went unnoticed. He said that "the future of the Palestinians is a bilateral matter between them and Jordan," and rejected any Israeli involvement in the issue. This is the first time that such a high-ranking DFLP figure has assigned such a prominent role to Jordan in determining the fate of the Palestinians, and this may attest to the fact that the resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is more serious than was initially thought. The DFLP did not participate in the previous round of talks (until they collapsed last summer), and 'Abd-Rabbuh's statement casts a new light on reports published last weekend in Amman that Crown Prince Hasan would soon be leaving for the United States to present a joint Jordanian-Palestinian position.

In other words: It is not the intifadah's Unified National Command which will bring about a breakthrough in the political process, but the renewed dialogue between the PLO and Jordan which will be part of the strategy of "the club of four." According to reports from Cairo, the Palestinian problem was discussed during King Husayn's surprise visit to Egypt in the middle of the week. Husayn probably tried to persuade Mubarak to withdraw Egypt's support for the notion of elections, in order to coordinate a strategy which would be acceptable to Iraq. Such a strategy would be based on a resumption of the dialogue with the PLO and on the convening of an international conference in which the PLO and Jordan would be jointly represented. At the same time, behind-the-scenes efforts are under way with Soviet-French backing to convene an international conference on Lebanon in a bid to link the two problems.

Jordan's main problem with the PLO's direct and separate contacts with the Likud lies in the consolidation of the "Jordan is Palestine" formula, which undoubtedly was the main topic of discussion in the tete-a-tete between Husayn and 'Arafat. 'Arafat could not admit that the issue had been raised in the meetings between his supporters in the territories and Shamir. Therefore, he voiced his fundamental opposition to the idea by accusing the Druze in Lebanon of striving to expel the Palestinians from Lebanon to Jordan.

Iraq's military presence in Jordan (the surveillance flights by Iraqi planes along the border) should be seen in this context. Jordan is the key link in the chain of "the club of four." Iraq is not prepared to topple the Hashemite regime in favor of a Palestinian government in Amman, and has actually sent a warning signal to Israel against an attempt to make good on the right wing's concepts. Jordan and the PLO need each other more than ever before: The PLO can help rebuild Palestinian confidence in the Jordanian dinar and safeguard the Palestinian flank in the elections scheduled for the end of the year. The PLO needs Jordan to rebuild its power base in Amman and to steer the political contacts, not toward the course of the intifadah and its leadership in the territories, but to the course of "the club of four." The initial move on this course would not be made by the leadership in the territories but by the Arab countries, with the PLO playing first fiddle for the Palestinians. According to this scenario, Fatah is not affected by the deterioration of the situation in the territories because this will accelerate the intervention of the superpowers, as was the case in Lebanon. In principle, this change of direction is positive because real chances for peace do not lie in the arduous path of placing the entire burden on a fragile group of good-willed functionaries in the territories, but in massive backing by an Arab superpower of Iraq's caliber. Still, the dangers are not negligible.

There are signs that Rabin understands this scenario, and has consequently ordered the resumption of the dialogue between the Palestinians and the Civil Administration. The willingness of the Palestinians to resume the dialogue shows that politically-minded Fatah elements are definitely ignoring the militant Unified National Command and are worried about the escalating moods in the territories. But this is no help, seeing that the change in trends is very deep and ingrained. The elections plan is dead, and the earlier we recognize this the better.

'Defense Source': 170 Rounded Up in W. Bank

TA3108093189 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 31 Aug 89 p 3

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] A senior defense source said last night that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has in the past 3 weeks rounded up some 170 wanted men in Judaea and Samaria, who make up the backbone of what the defense establishment calls "the hard core" of the intifadah [uprising] leadership in the West Bank.

The source told the ITIM correspondent that the IDF, in cooperation with the Shin Bet, is carrying out special

activity around the clock aimed at locating and capturing those on the wanted list in Judaea and Samaria.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said during a tour of Nabulus yesterday that he has recently observed successes in the IDF's confrontation with the intifadah's hard core. "The IDF is fighting the hard core with intelligence and military activities. We have had initial successes in our confrontation with the hard core, but there is still much work to be done," Rabin said.

He said that the IDF must be tougher with the hard core in the Gaza Strip in order to serve the interests of the general population, which wants to leave for work in Israel. "The hard core is harming the population for whom work in Israel is vital. In the final analysis, the activists are fighting a lost war, and the outcome will become obvious within several days."

Our correspondent points out that slogans in the name of the Unified National Command of the Uprising appeared on the walls of houses in Gaza yesterday permitting workers to leave for their jobs in Israel today.

Institute Head on Autopsies of Uprising Victims

TA3108173189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Excerpts] If senior commanders learn how to deal with the snatching of bodies from hospitals in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, and if they reopen graves and take the bodies out for autopsy, residents will gradually understand that it is in their own good to refer any case of unnatural death to the Forensic Institute. These remarks were made by Dr Yehuda Hiss, director of the Forensic Institute in Abu-Kabir, who claims that a high percentage of the intifadah [uprising] casualties in fact died of natural causes, rather than of Army activities. Our correspondent Rina Matzliah visited the Forensic Institute today:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Hiss] We have done a spot check which shows that a percentage of residents of the territories who have died and who were brought to the Forensic Institute with a tag indicating that they were victims of the intifadah, had died of natural diseases totally unrelated to any military or violent events.

[Matzliah] Only 30 percent of the intifadah casualties reach the Forensic Institute for an autopsy. Dr Hiss points out that the allegation often repeated by Arab residents of the territories—that the internal organs of the dead are removed at the Forensic Institute in Abu-Kabir—is groundless. He adds that internal organs are preserved only when they are needed for an investigation, in which case no difference exists between Jewish, Arab, and Christian bodies. [passage omitted]

Coalition Approves New W. Bank Settlement

TA3108101589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] A new settlement called 'Ofarim was inaugurated this morning near the settlement of Bet Arye in Samaria. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the settlement was authorized by all relevant bodies. 'Ofarim is one of the eight settlements agreed upon in the coalition agreement.

Arens To Meet With PRC's Qian Qichen at UN

TA3108091189 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 Aug 89 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Arens will meet with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen at the UN at the end of next month, officials in Jerusalem confirmed yesterday.

The meeting was scheduled following extensive contacts between Israeli and Chinese diplomats at the UN. Officials believe that the meeting is especially significant, since it will provide first indications of future relations with Beijing following the bloody students uprising there earlier this year.

Arens is scheduled to go to New York for two weeks on September 24 to head Israel's delegation to the General Assembly.

Contacts are also underway to arrange a meeting between Arens and Egyptian President Mubarak, who agreed to the meeting in principle in recent talks with Israel's ambassador to Egypt, Shim'on Shamir.

In that meeting, Mubarak again rejected the possibility of a summit meeting Prime Minister Shamir. Sources in Jerusalem said last night that the prime minister has now decided to stop efforts to set up a meeting between him and the Egyptian president.

In New York, Arens is also likely to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze as well as several other foreign ministers of countries which do not maintain diplomatic ties with Jerusalem.

Agreement Amended To Increase U.S. Aid

JN3108202289 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The first amendment of the grant agreement of Private Enterprises Technical Aid, PETRA [as heard], was signed at the Ministry of Planning today. The amendment would increase the amount extended for development projects in Jordan to 11 million U.S. dollars. These amounts were transferred to specialized lending institutions and will be used in private sector pioneer projects.

The agreement was signed by the minister of planning, Dr Ziyad Fariz, while the American ambassador and the director of the U.S. Agency for International Development in Amman signed for the United States.

King Addresses Officers, Praises Arab Support

JN3008184689 Amman Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] His majesty the king, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, visited the headquarters of the Royal Jordanian Air Force today. His majesty was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah and the Chief of the General Staff General Fathi Abu-Talib.

During the visit, his majesty met with the Air Force officers and spoke to them about local, Arab, and international affairs. His majesty reaffirmed Jordan's ability to adapt to the various circumstances and to overcome present difficulties. His majesty praised the citizens' awareness and Arab countries' support for Jordan—notably Saudi Arabia, other Arab Gulf states, and Iraq.

His majesty said Jordan will continue to extend every support to brotherly Arab nations under all circumstances.

King Husayn Accepts Ministerial Resignations

JN3108153889 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Amman, 31 Aug (PETRA)—A royal decree has been issued accepting the resignations of Tahir al-Masri, deputy prime minister and minister of state for economic affairs; Dr 'Abdallah al-Nusur, minister of education; and Eng Shafiq al-Zawayidah, minister of public works and housing.

His Majesty King Husayn received the ministers at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon and thanked them for the efforts they made in their performance of their duties. The king also wished them success.

The meeting was attended by the prime minister and the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court.

It is to be recalled that Al-Masri, Al-Nusur, and Al-Zawayidah will run for the parliamentary elections to be held on 8 November.

Columnist Urges Reopening of Money Changers

JN2708110089 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 Aug 89 p 4

["Sunday's Economic Pulse" by Fahd al-Fanik: "Moving With Confidence"]

[Text] Moneychangers offices were closed on Feb. 8, 1989 to put an end to speculation and capital flight, and to allow a return to fixed exchange rate after four months of floating.

Since then, things changed drastically and a reconsideration of the whole subject became in order. In fact the governor of the Central Bank [of Jordan—CBJ] recently announced that the decision to re-activate the moneychangers was subject to a thorough study.

However, so far, it seems the Central Bank did not make up its mind regarding this vital subject. The feeling is that since things are now going the bank's way, it would be risky to do something major that might upset the current favourable trend.

This position is quite understood, but it should not prevent the finalisation of the study as early as possible, because favourable trends need continued support, and the CBJ should take some calculated risk in this regard. Any decision or policy is no more than a response to a certain situation and to available information. If circumstances were altered, and new facts emerged to substantially change the situation, one need not hold on to previous positions.

I shall try to summarise some of the new facts and circumstances that call for a real re-evalutation and justify re-opening of the moneychanging offices to resume operation under a new law that avoids over or under regulation.

The decision to close moneychanging offices was taken when it was clear that moneychangers were the means and instruments of speculation against the dinar, that the dinar's exchange rate dropped to 620 fils to the dollar. Now, in the absence of authorised moneychangers, the dollar is selling in the free market at 15 per cent higher, an evidence that the decision is not serving its purpose.

We thought at the time, that the closure of moneychangers offices will be accompanied by a crack down on black market, treating it strictly as a security hazard to be dealt with accordingly, and not left to the Central Bank. In such a situation, we expected no black market to emerge before three months, a good breathing time to allow the government to move and re-arrange the stage. This expectation did not materialise and the black market flourished and became a reality in a matter of days. Black market is of course more dangerous than the authorised moneychangers.

The moneychanging deals are there as everybody knows. They were previously conducted through well-known offices, with books and records, by authorised dealers,

who provided information and paid taxes. Such deals are currently conducted under the ground. The activity is being left for anyone to practise behind the back of the law and the specialised institutions.

The authorised moneychangers are dealing at large in dinars, in Jerusalem, Nabulus, Jeddah, Bahrain, Dubayy etc. The embargo is only imposed on moneychangers in Jordan, which would be able to compete and attract capital and foreign currencies if they were allowed to do so. The banning of moneychanging in Jordan is not serving any purpose except shifting business and foreign exchange outside.

At one time we worried about capital flight or loss of confidence in the dinar. There is nothing to worry about now as the damage has already been done. So why not open the door to capital movement and exchange rates until we reach a real stability level, determined by market forces rather than an artificial rate that we lack the means to protect. The current healthy situation in the market since the beginning of August is a golden opportunity to move with confidence.

Agriculture Minister Cited on River 'Pollution'

JN1508100689 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 14 Aug 89 pp 1, 13

[By Fayruz al-Mubayidin]

[Text] Amman—A farmer from the Qalla'at al-Hamra' [name as published] area in the northern region of the Jordan Valley has complained about a bad smell emanating from the River Jordan in the Qalla'at al-Hamra' area. He indicated that the bad smell might be caused by sewage tunnels opened by the Israeli occupation authorities into the Jordan River.

In a report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Water Authority, the farmer said that the current condition of the river makes it impossible to use it for irrigation and may pose a health hazard if the situation continues as it is now.

Agriculture Minister 'Adnan Badran said that Israel pollutes the Jordan River by washing spraying machines and disposing of their chemical waste in all channels running into the river. He said that it is not ruled out that Israel will continue its pollution.

In a statement to SAWT AL-SHA'B, Badran said that Jordan does not use the Jordan River for irrigation and cultivation primarily because it is highly salty and because of river pollution caused by Israeli practices on the other side of the river.

He added that many fish farms in the Jordan Valley have been closed because of pollution.

He said that Jordan appealed to international organizations, including FOA [UN Food and Agriculture Organization], UNESCO, and others to use effective means to make Israel halt its pollutive practices. He said we have explained in studies the negative effects of Israel's pollution.

A responsible source in the Jordan River Authority said that the authority has taken a water sample from the area of the farmer who made the complaint. The sample is still being tested and analyzed to learn the real reason behind the pollution and bad smell.

Water Minister: Pollution 'Limited'

JN1508103589 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Aug 89 p 1

[Excerpt] Amman—AL-DUSTUR—Eng Muhammad Salih al-Kilani, minister of water and irrigation, has affirmed that the ministry's laboratories are properly equipped and fully efficient to prevent any pollution in Jordan's water resources, whether they are dams, springs, or wells.

Eng al-Kilani said that the Jordan River pollution which took place in the Qalla'at al-Hamra' area is a limited and narrow pollution that resulted from the leakage of sewage water from an Israeli settlement. He said the pollution poses no danger because the Jordan River is not used for drinking or cultivation in view of its high salinity level, which amounts to 5,000 milliliters per 1 cubic meter.

The minister of water said the ministry was aware of the issue for 2 months and monitored the area more than once, but found that pollution had not been frequent. He said it was casual, nonchemical, and expanded over an area not exceeding 1 square km. [passage omitted]

Light Density Oil Discovered in Southeast

JN2808071489 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Aug 89 p 1

[Text] Light density oil has been discovered in southeast Jordan where the Natural Resources Authority is carrying out prospecting operations.

A responsible source has said the discovery is very important in view of the fact that the oil is of a light density type, reaching up to 45 degrees under the U.S. Oil Institute specifications.

The source added that the oil was discovered at a depth of only 1,400 meters between old geological rock formations.

All these considerations, he said, contribute to the great significance of the discovery, and the authority is continuing its work to ascertain the quantity of the deposits and their economic feasibility for possible exploitation.

W. Beirut Army: 'Awn Forces Violate Cease-Fire

NC3108134789 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The Army Command in [West] Beirut has issued a communique on the acts of aggressions carried out by the 'Awn cliques in the past few hours. The communique stressed that since 1200 yesterday, 'Awn troops have been continuing their war of liberation against the Lebanese in Beirut, the suburb, and the mountain, despite their committment to the cease-fire declared by the Security Council. Various military barracks and posts along the capital's contact lines were the targets of the attacks. As a result, the Museum-al-Barbir crossing point was closed to traffic several times, three military personnel were slightly injured, and we were compelled to return fire.

The communique added: The al-Yarzah army troops continued to violate the cease-fire all day yesterday and until early this morning. They poured fire of various calibers, particularly 155-mm, on defenseless citizens throughout Beirut, its suburb, the mountain, and al-Biqa', inflicting more casualties and bringing further suffering to the people of this homeland, as a result of 'Awn's decisions to continue his so-called war of liberation.

Israeli Planes Stage Mock Raids Over Sidon

NC3108142689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] We have been informed that Israeli warplanes have been conducting mock raids at low altitude over Sidon and the Palestinian camps for some time.

Further on Mock Raids

NC3108150689 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Israeli warplanes have been carrying out intensive mock raids over al-Damur, al-Na'imah, and the outskirts of Iqlim al-Kharrub since 1500 today. The Israeli fighters are dropping thermal balloons to avoid antiaircraft fire.

Beirut Radio Details Israeli Activities in South

NC0109084689 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] The Israeli occupation authorities and agent Antoine Lahd's militia have increased their harassment of the inhabitants in the occupied border strip in the south. They began implementing a decision that every car must include a passenger. They have reduced the number of the cars that try to enter the occupied areas and have introduced stringent military measures at the crossing points to implement this decision.

The occupation forces and agent Antoine Lahd searched extensively around the town of Markaba yesterday after a rocket attack on a militia position there.

According to security information, Israeli helicopters have flown over the line extending from Hula up to Tulin, al-Ghanduriyah, 'Alman, and al-Shumariyah, as well as over the fringes of al-Nabatiyah, the towns of Zawtar al-Gharbiyah and Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, the al-Litani River up to the hills overlooking al-Rayhan, Sujud, and Jazzin. Amal Movement has put its fighters on maximum alert.

Information received from al-Nabatiyah said that the occupation forces shelled the villages of Zawtar al-Gharbiyah and Zawtar al-Sharqiyah, using tanks and artillery. The mosque in Zawtar al-Sharqiyah and the house of citizen 'Ali Rashid Harb were hit.

Travelers from the occupied border strip have said that the Israeli occupation forces have been bringing vehicles into the town [not further identified] since 1500 yesterday. The vehicles are deployed at the town's entrances. The forces in these vehicles have been put on maximum alert.

Meanwhile, the town of Rshaf is still being besieged by the Israeli occupation forces who prevent the inhabitants from leaving or entering the town. A number of old people, women, and children live there under difficult conditions.

According to a report from the occupied border strip, the Lahd militia's campaign to recruit youths between 14 and 18 years old is prompted by the need to compensate for the shortage of older recruits. The recruitment campaign has been extended to the villages of Shihin and Shama' where eight youths have been forcibly recruited, in addition to nine others from the town of Dayr Siryan who were recruited a few days ago. The report adds that high-ranking officers of the Israeli intelligence service, Shin Bet, are supervising the rebuilding of agent Lahd's militia which has been eroded because of desertions.

Fadlallah on 'Joint American-Israeli' Raid

NC3008071989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Ayatollah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has said that Israel could not have had the freedom to occupy our lands and shell our areas and people if it had not had the approval of and participated in joint planning with world imperialism, particularly America.

Commenting on the Israeli aggressive raid, Ayatollah Fadlallah said the raid was a joint American-Israeli attack, because it was launched by U.S weapons and according to U.S policy.

'Awn Calls on Washington To Pressure Syria

NC3108175389 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn today called on Washington to pressure Syria, saying that the United States must not let itself be shackled by the fact that it has 9 or 10 hostages in Lebanon. In an interview with REUTER, 'Awn said that, had he wanted to, he, too, could be holding hostages.

'Awn said that he is trying to wear down Syria with his resistance, noting that this is his only hope, since dialogue with Syria was, as he put it, impossible. 'Awn accused Damascus of seeking to annex Lebanon.

'Awn said that he is willing to meet with West Beirut leaders, reiterating that they should be free from Syrian domination before they begin debating political reforms.

'Awn Seeks To Sink Syrian Ships

NC0109103389 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0930 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] General Michel 'Awn has accused Washington of giving the Syrians sufficient time to implement what they want in Lebanon. In an interview with the French paper LE FIGARO, 'Awn said that Washington is exerting pressure on France to prevent it from extending military aid to Lebanon. He said that he would like to acquire two or three missile boats to sink the Syrian ships implementing the blockade.

Group Claims Anti-Syrian Operation in Tripoli

NC0109102289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] The 16 January Organization for the Liberation of Tripoli announced that a group of its al-Fajr troops ambushed a Syrian foot patrol from the Syrian special units at dawn today while the patrol was on its way back from the Ra's al-Sakhr area to the fair grounds in Tripoli. A sergeant from the patrol was seriously injured and another member of the patrol carrying a rocket launcher was also wounded.

In another development, the same organization warned the agents of collaborators with Syrian intelligence that they must give up their agents by the middle of the month, emphasizing that it will show no leniency to anyone after that date.

VOL Says Syrians Make Arrests in al-Biqa'

NC2908080989 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] According to security reports from the western al-Biqa', Syrian forces there have raided houses in Ghazzah town and arrested several people on charges of writing slogans supporting the liberation march. Slogans posted last Saturday called for the withdrawal of all alien armies from Lebanon. Other slogans express support for Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn.

Syrian Forces Reportedly Divert Electricity

NC2908200289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Travelers from northern Lebanon said that the Syrian occupation forces have diverted electricity in the area to Latakia in Syria. They say that this is the reason why power is rationed in the area and not because of breakdowns, as claimed by an official source in the Qadisha Power Station.

These travelers say that Syria's need for electricity has increased with the opening of the Latakia Fair yesterday. The fair will continue until 3 September.

Ships Carrying Arms Said Target of Shells

NC3108141089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] In confirmation of our reports on the continuing flow of arms shipments to the Michel 'Awn cliques, reliable sources today stated that two ships loaded with arms and ammunition were heading for a port in the eastern area at dawn on Tuesday. The oil tanker "Sunshield," which was carrying a quantity of fuel and which was hit by several shells, was leading the way and acting as a shield for the two ships carrying arms.

The same sources add that it was these two ships and not the tanker that was the intended target of the fire from the positions of the National Front and the Army Command in Beirut on that day. However, the two ships moved away while the oil tanker continued on its course. As a result, the tanker received direct hits, setting it ablaze and leaving some victims aboard.

Cyprus Suspends Beirut-Larnaca Flights

NC2608165289 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] It was disclosed today that General 'Awn has brought in arms aboard military helicopters under the pretext that the helicopters were transporting passengers between Cyprus and East Beirut. The Cypriot authorities today suspended these flights. Sources at Larnaca Airport noted that Cyprus resorted to this step when it was revealed that Michel 'Awn had violated an agreement that helicopters would be used only for humanitarian purposes. The sources affirmed that the military helicopters, which usually make two or three flights a day between Cyprus and East Beirut, had transported hardware to 'Awn.

Syrian Social Party, Hizballah Officials Meet

JN2908171489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Beirut—Dr Marwan Faris, deputy leader of the Higher Council of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party

met yesterday with a Hizballah delegation. The delegation was composed of Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli and Ibrahim al-Amin. Dr Faris said that the purpose of the meeting was to stress the close relations between the two sides in fighting the Zionist enemy as part of the various forms of military and political resistance.

Faris also said: We see in this meeting a strengthening of the steadfast front in the face of the isolationist forces led by 'Awn, who is implementing the imperialist-Zionist plot to establish a second Israel in Lebanon. He added: During our meeting, we discussed the danger posed by the French fleet, which not only threatens Lebanon, but also all forces opposed to imperialism in all its forms.

Junblatt Calls for Steadfastness, Unity of Ranks

NC2608145189 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party Leader Walid Junblatt received popular delegations from various areas today. Addressing the delegations, Junblatt emphasized that the battle will be a protracted one. He noted: We never attacked anyone, but the goal of Michel 'Awn's liberation plan is clear. He wants to liberate Lebanon from the nationalists and all his guns are directed at the mountain, Beirut, and the southern Suburb. Junblatt added: When 'Awn faces difficulties, the French and other fleets come to protect him. No matter how many fleets come, however, 'Awn will not succeed because the will of nationalists, believers, and Arabs like you is much stronger than the French and other fleets.

Junblatt said that what counts is steadfastness and unity of ranks, which exist thanks to the wisdom of the people. We must help each other because the struggle will be protracted. It is important that we consolidate moral, political, and social steadfastness, Junblatt concluded.

PFLP Delegation Expresses Support for Junblatt

NC2608093989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt received a delegation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine led by Political Bureau Member Abu-Ahmad Fu'ad and composed of Abu-Fadi Raj and Abu-Nizar. The Front issued a statement of support on behalf of the delegation and the Palestinian revolution for the struggle of the nationalist and Islamic forces against Michel 'Awn's Zionist scheme. The delegation also called for the withdrawal of the American and French fleets.

The statement said that Junblatt affirmed the support of the Lebanese nationalists for the Palestinian people's intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territories.

Failure of Foreign Initiatives Predicted

NC3108151289 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0930 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement, has expressed his conviction that all Arab and international initiatives on Lebanon will fail, because foreign initiatives do not address the reality of the Lebanese crisis. Each initiative, be it Arab, European, or American, seeks to impose its will or the will of others on Lebanon and to hide the truth. The Arabs want to revolve in the orbit of Western policy.

In a press interview this morning, Shaykh Sha'ban said that France moved only when Maronism became endangered, and the pope tried to visit Lebanon only when he saw that the Christians were in danger. Therefore, he said, all those who have intervened in the crisis are biased.

Muslim Spiritual Leaders Issue Statement

NC2508201089 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Abu-Shaqra, spiritual leader of the Druze community; Shaykh Muhammad Rashid Qabbani, acting mufti of the Republic; and Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shiite Council, issued a statement today calling on the Arab tripartite committee to resume its efforts. The statement points to the need for an immediate comprehensive cease-fire and for a mechanism which would monitor it and guarantee adherence and ensure that arms are not supplied to the warring parties.

The statement considers the national accord as the proper way to resolve the Lebanese crisis. It says that the Syrian forces entered Lebanon in accordance with a decision by the official authority and the endorsement of an Arab summit.

Regarding the French move, the statement by the Muslim spiritual leaders says that any military or political initiative by any foreign party to replace the tripartite committee's efforts is strongly rejected, adding: What then are we to make of this initiative, if its object is to demonstrate military force or threaten its use in order to help one Lebanese party against the other?

The statement emphasizes that France must refrain from allowing its fleet to enter Lebanese territorial waters and from making threats, because this, rather than frightening anybody or bringing about a solution, will only complicate the situation.

UN Mission To Lodge Complaint Against Israel

NC2808140989 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Acting upon the instructions of Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, the Foreign

Ministry has directed the Lebanese mission at the United Nations to lodge a protest over Israel's attack on 'Ayn Bu Siwar in the south yesterday and its deportation of some Palestinian strugglers to Lebanon.

Nasirite Unionist Group Visits Hizballah Leader

NC2808115289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] A delegation of the Nasirite Unionist Movement led by Dr Samir Sabbagh called on his eminence Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli in Ba'labakk last night. Discussion centered on the current political situation in the light of the European crusaders campaign against Lebanon and its people.

After the meeting, Shaykh al-Tufayli said: The discussion revolved around the Lebanese problem and recent developments, especially those on the need to confront the imperialist and Arab onslaught exemplified by agent 'Awn. We also discussed the need for joint work and coordination to confront the ominous possibilities facing us, especially since there is a big possibility that the Lebanese people, as well as Lebanon's future as a homeland, will vanish.

His eminence added: Therefore, this visit falls within the framework of arranging the Islamic and national ranks in the face of the imperialist onslaught.

Concerning the recent Israeli air raid on Islamic Resistance positions in Jabal Safi, Shaykh Tufayli said: We can say that this raid aimed to achieve military pressure. Israel is on the ground with its soldiers and weapons, whether in the eastern [Christian] area or in Southern Lebabnon. What Israel did in 'Ayn Bu Siwar was not an exception but the rule. This is because the Islamic Resistance is the enemy of Israel.

His eminence added: It is possible that 'Awn and others will benefit from this Israeli intervention and will exploit it to scare the Muslims.

Dr Sabbagh said that the visit aimed to achieve maximum coordination, harmony, and integration among the Islamic and National forces to confront the schemes by Lebanon's enemies. He added that views were identical on all issues under discussion, including the need to exert all efforts to reactivate the National and Islamic front, as well as the need for the participation of all forces in this battle imposed on the nationalists and Muslims.

Concerning the current Soviet moves in Lebanon, Dr Sabbagh said: The Soviet envoy's visit to Lebanon was expected. This is in view of the role which the Soviet Union can play in the Lebansese crisis. This role is not very remote from the framework of the agreement with the United States through the committee set up between the two countries.

Dr Sabbagh explained that the Soviet envoy submitted clear ideas calling for full implementation of the Casablanca Conference resolutions. This is in contrast to the ideas presented by other envoys who preceded him, be they Arab or French, and who tried to abort the summit resolutions and follow a different course that will lead to the achievement of the objectives of the forces hostile to Lebanon's unity.

Dr Sabbagh stressed that Lebanon cannot remain under the unjust regime of privileges inherited from the French mandate. Therefore, the struggle must be resumed to overthrow this regime and fly the flag of the Lebanese homeland in which all Lebanese, especially the Muslims who have been deprived of their rights for long, will be equal.

Hizballah Radio on Jibshit Town Protest Rally

NC2808073489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] A huge rally was held in the struggling town of Jibshit yesterday to protest the Zionist enemy's abduction of his eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd. Thousands of believers from the region, as well as over 80 Muslim scholars, participated.

His eminence Shaykh Hasan Baghdadi said in a speech: The French intervention is directed against us. Our reply will be severe. We advise France retract its decision; otherwise, what happened in 1983 [bombing of French soldiers headquarters in Beirut] will happen again.

His eminence Shaykh Muhammad Ya'bik, who participated in the rally, stressed in a statement to AFP that Hizballah has the means to strike Israel in a way that will deeply hurt it and force it to release Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd. He added that the suicide operation carried out by martyr Shaykh As'ad Birru is only the beginning. He stressed that Hizballah rejects any negotiations with the Zionist entity over the captured Israeli soldiers and that no connection should be made between Shaykh Ubayd's abduction and the the issue of the Western hostages in Lebanon.

Maronite Patriarch Discourages Papal Visit

NC3108175189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sufayr has told France-Inter Radio that current circumstances in Lebanon are not favorable for a visit by Pope Jean Paul II to that country. Such a visit, as the Vatican may well know, would require more suitable cicumstances, Patriarch Sufayr said.

2 Killed, 22 Wounded in Overnight Shelling

NC0109052489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0315 GMT 01 Sep 89

[Excerpt] At least 2 people were killed and 22 others were wounded during Syrian attacks against the eastern areas

last night. These attacks, beginning early in the evening and continuing until 0130 today, covered various eastern areas, including southern al-Matn, the coastal, central, and upper Kasrawan region, the coastal and central northern al-Matn, and al-Ashrafiyah and its surrounding areas. The attacks were accompanied by clashes involving various artillery, rocket, and tank weapons on the Jabrin-'Ayn al-Tufahah and al-Duwwar-al-'Ayrun combat lines in upper al-Matn. Flares were also fired. The clashes on these two combat lines continued until 0030 today.

There were simultaneous Syrian attacks against the Army positions on the Mountain, southern Suburb, and Beirut. The Army returned fire with appropriate weapons. Earlier, heavy clashes took place on the Beirut confrontation lines at 1830 yesterday.

At 0030 today, the Lebanese Army repulsed an infiltration attempt by pro-Syrian elements on the Normande-Museum line. The Army killed four infiltrators. The body of one of them remained on the battlefield. The army also hit Syrian military concentrations in al-'Ayrun and destroyed two Syrian ammunition dumps in Bulunya and (Shawsharah). A Progressive Socialist Party position in Duhur al-'Ibadiyah was also hit, and a number of artillery and rocket emplacements in West Beirut, the Suburb, the Mountain, upper al-Matn, and al-Biqa' were silenced. [passage omitted]

More on Overnight Shelling

NC0109074689 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Citizens experienced a new wave of blind and mad shelling yesterday, especially last night, when shells hit various areas as far as al-Biqa', increasing the number of dead and wounded. The capital and its southern Suburb, the mountain, northern al-Matn, and areas in central al-Biqa' experienced a new round of violence that, according to a preliminary count, mowed down 5 people and wounded over 60 others, including 1 killed and 20 wounded in the eastern area and 4 killed and 40 wounded in the western area. [passage omitted]

Syrians Resume Shelling Christian Areas 1 Sep

NC0109075489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] The Syrians began attacking the eastern areas early today. At approximately 0630 they heated up the Kafr Shima-al-Shuwayfat confrontation line and shelled the residential areas in Kafr Shima. Al-Hadath began coming under shelling at 0700. At approximately 0730, the shelling expanded to include the central part of northern al-Matn, particularly al-Mansuriyah and surrounding areas. At 0804, a rocket launcher fired at the vicinity of the Defense Ministry in al-Yarzah as well as the central part of northern al-Matn.

It was reported in West Beirut that shells fell on the areas of al-Maramil and the airport road this morning. Security authorities have advised citizens to take precautions as the Syrians may be intending to escalate the situation.

Syrian Shelling of Eastern Areas Continues

NC0109091589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 01 Sep 89

[Text] Syrian shelling has continued for the 3d day running and today was concentrated on the southern al-Matn region, particularly al-Hadath, B'abda, al-Yarzah, Butshay, Wadi Shahrur, and Sibnay. The shelling also spread to al-Ashrafiyah; coastal, central, and upper northern al-Matn; the coastal, central, and hill region of Kasrawan; and the Jubayl coast.

Meanwhile, fierce clashes broke out on the 'Ayn al-Tuffahah-Shrin and al-Dawwar-al-'Ayrun combat lines. Shells are falling intermittently on the Bikfayya area.

REUTER news agency reported that 14 people were killed and more than 47 others were wounded during yesterday's round of bloody shelling. The agency added that about 700,000 residents of Beirut have fled to Cyprus or Syria since the outbreak of the fighting last March.

More Areas Reported Under Artillery Fire

NC0109090089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] The areas of al-Manarah, al-Rawshah, 'Ayn al-Muraysah, al-Ramlah al-Bayda', and Wadi abu Jamil have been coming under artillery fire since 1015 today. The areas of al-Ruwaysah, al-Karamah, and al-Murayjah in Beirut's southern Suburb are also coming under similar bombardment from 155-mm guns.

According to security sources in the eastern area, B'abda, Sibnay, and al-Hadath are coming under shelling.

Meanwhile, violent clashes are still raging on the confrontation lines in the mountain, particularly on the lines of Baysur, 'Aramun, Kayfun, and 'Aramun Hills.

Violent clashes involving various types of automatic weapons and rockets are taking place on the Ra's al-Nab' and Sodeco confrontation lines. Shells are falling on neighboring areas.

Maritime Target 'Engaged' off Juniyah Port 1 Sep

NC0109095389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] The National Front's operations room has issued a statement saying that at 0945 today the front's artillery engaged a maritime target as it was attempting to approach Juniyah Port and while the al-Yarzah army cliques' artillery was trying to cover the maritime target by violently shelling the residential areas in Beirut and its southern Suburb and the town of al-Shuwayfat.

Meanwhile, the army command in Beirut has issued a statememt saying: At 1000 today, a maritime target tried to enter the port of Juniyah in another attempt by the al-Yarzah command to import arms to the eastern areas. Our atillery engaged the target and prevented it from achieving its goal, in implementation of the decision to prevent the importation of arms and ammunition to the eastern area.

Spokesman Reacts to Mubarak Statement

JN3108115589 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Damascus—The spokesman for the presidency of the Syrian Arab Republic has been asked about the statement made by His Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, regarding Syria's position on Lebanon. He replied: We do not know the basis on which Egyptian President Husni Mubarak made his statement, in which he said that Syria had changed its position on Lebanon. The message from President Hafiz al-Asad to King Husayn Ibn-Talal, delivered by the foreign minister during his visit to Jordan at the invitation of his colleague the Jordanian foreign minister, was a fraternal message dealing with bilateral affairs and contained not a single word about Lebanon.

We want to make it clear that Syria's stances are firm and so is its policy toward Lebanon. If the question has to do with the situation in Lebanon, then Syria has stressed and is stressing that it is always prepared to cooperate with all parties on the basis of the implementation of the resolutions of the Casablanca Arab Summit in this regard. Syria has repeatedly declared this.

Foreign Ministry Remarks on al-Shar' Amman Visit

JN3108181289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] An official Foreign Ministry spokesman has made the following statement:

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's visit to Jordan on 26-27 August 1989 was in response to an invitation by his Jordanian counterpart Marwan al-Qasim to exchange views on bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries.

His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad took the opportunity of the visit to ask the foreign minister to convey his greetings and good wishes to his brother His Majesty King Husayn.

Jordanian officials expressed their wish to discuss Lebanese developments and be familiarized with Syria's position. News media were noticed to have shown interest in the subject at the news conference held by Faruq al-Shar' at the conclusion of his visit to Jordan.

Jordanian and Syrian news media carried objective excerpts from the news conference at which al-Shar' stressed that Syria attaches no conditions to a resumption of the work of the Arab tripartite committee to implement the Casablanca summit resolution in full and that Syria wants to see a Lebanese Government of national reconciliation reassert its authority over all of Lebanon's soil.

Al-Shar' further emphasized Syria's interest in an Arab solution, a durable cease-fire, the lifting of blockades and an embargo on arms shipments to all parties in order for a political solution to proceed as provided for by the Casablanca summit.

Al-Shar' explained that 'Awn's pursuit of the military option, his escalating tactics and stockpiling of weapons, as well as his wreaking havoc in West Beirut and inflicting heavy casualties among its civilians—have all served to stiffen the resolve of Lebanon's nationalist and Islamic forces to devise a mechansim to block arms shipments.

It was this that al-Shar' made clear during his meetings with Jordanian officials.

It is regrettable, however, that some other media deliberately sought to mislead public opinion regarding Syria's true position on the Lebanese crisis and to misrepresent the friendly atmosphere of the visit, claiming that they were quoting authoritative sources.

Commentary Defends Syria's Lebanon Policy

JN3108145889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: It is now common knowledge that Lebanon's civil strife was triggered by the isolationists and that they have consistently obstructed a solution that does not meet their objectives—in particular, the suppression of the country's Arab character and the expulsion of aliens. To them, aliens are anyone connected with Arabism, with the Syrian Arab forces topping the list.

A reminder is necessary here: The Syrian forces went into Lebanon to meet a request by the country's legitimate government and to heed a distress call from the Lebanese, not the least of which were the brother Christians. Furthermore, the Syrian deployment has averted massacres against the Christians in retaliation for atrocities committed by the isolationists. The Syrian presence in Lebanon has also prevented its partition and safeguarded its Arab identity from Zionist conspiracies.

If reminders are sometimes needed regarding the facts of the Lebanese crisis, it must be said that Syria has made huge sacrifices in the cause of helping the Lebanese brothers throughout the civil war and that its forces went into Beirut only after it had received urgent appeals for assistance. The Syrian forces have fulfilled their duty on pan-Arab and humanitarian grounds. In the meantime, Syria's political leadership has been making persistent, tireless efforts to find common ground among the Lebanese and serve as a solid foundation for a strongly-based national reconcilation that can survive against sedition and conspiracy.

Certain quarters, known for their hostility to Syria and the Arab nation and its causes, approach the Lebanese crisis as if it had just erupted and the Syrian forces had

precipitated it. They demand Syrian withdrawal and turn a blind eye to the isolationist and Israeli schemes. This is at a time when the isolationists have expanded their definition of aliens to include the struggling Lebanese who have vowed to pay with their blood for Arab causes, above all, the Palestinian cause. These quarters, which have built bridges—overt and covert—with the isolationists and 'Awn and his clique, ignore the existence of Lebanon's nationalist and Islamic forces, caring nothing about the country's Arab character. They even act as if Israel is not occupying part of southern Lebanon.

Certain Western quarters have come up with a plan envisaging a withdrawal of the Syrian forces to be followed by an Israeli pullout. These quarters think an Israeli withdrawal is not possible just yet. Why is a Syrian withdrawal such a priority for them? It is because the conspiracy begun by the isolationists and currently executed by 'Awn stands no chance of success until the Syrian forces pull out. The plot is designed to obliterate Lebanon's Arab character and kick the aliens out of the country—that is, the Arabs and the Lebanese nationalists who make up a majority of the population. Further, the scheme calls for the founding of another Israel in the region and turning the brotherly state into a Zionist base threatening the security of Syria and the Arab nation. The conspiracy seeks to destroy the regional nationalist forces and bring about an Arab decline into the backward pre-Islamic era of tribal, clan, regional, and sectarian disputes. The authors of the conspiracy see the involvement of the Iraqi regime and its availability for joining the war against Lebanon's nationalist forces as their chance of a lifetime. They also see in the French involvement another chance to internationalize the crisis and thus give it a new dimension.

It is for these reasons that they clamor for a Syrian pullout under the guise of concern for Lebanon and its future. We would ask them: Isn't it by ending the civil war and by bringing back normality, security, and stability in a national reconciliation that they can demonstrate a genuine concern for Lebanon? National reconciliation based on justice and equality and restructuring the Lebanese society are surely more useful than the language of guns, destructive war, and the plans to expel the aliens and displace the Lebanese. The welfare of Lebanon is best served by putting pressure on Israel to evacuate the south and renounce expansion and the seizure of Lebanese waters. Lebanon's interests will be best served when the military clique surrenders power to the Christian figures, especially since the latter, in common with all the Lebanese, called yesterday for structural reform and the renunciation of violence.

These suspect calls [for the withdrawal of Syrian forces] will not find a sympathetic ear either with the Lebanese or Syria, because they are directed against the Arab identity and the future of Lebanon. Syria does not covet any Lebanese territory; all it wants from Lebanon is to attain national reconciliation and resume its Arab role. At that point, reminders for Syria to withdraw its forces shall become redundant. These forces are there to help kinfolk and will return home as soon as the Lebanese brothers recuperate, weather the crisis, and topple the conspiracy.

AL-THAWRAH on Meaning of Arab Solution

JN0109070089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Sep 89

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lebanon and the Arab Solution," AL-THAWRAH writes:

The Arab solution meant by the Casablanca summit never means giving an Arab cover for the Zionist-isolationist scheme in Lebanon, nor does it mean covering up for the Israeli occupation and keeping it out of focus. Nor does it mean covering up for the new colonialist Baghdad Pact.

The Arab solution does not mean, and should never be allowed to mean, the cancellation of the nationalist and Islamic Lebanese forces because these forces represent the will of the majority of the Lebanese people and because they have the biggest role in building the Arab Lebanon. They are the same forces that paid a dear price for Lebanon's independence and are still paying this price from the best of their sons to liberate its territory from Israeli occupation.

Therefore, supporting the nationalist forces is a national and pan-Arab duty whether this support is made in the field of their confrontations against the Zionist occupation forces, or in their struggle to replace the corrupt sectarian system with a system based on justice and equality.

Hence, the Arab solution that is harmonious with the interest of Lebanon and the Arabs' national interests is the one that depends on national reconciliation and political reforms, and this will make it a pan-Arab translation of the Casablanca summit resolution. This is what Syria wants and endeavors to achieve.

Developments in Lebanon have confirmed the firmness of the Syrian Arab position and its credibility.

AL-BA'TH Cited on Syria's Pan-Arab Policies

JN0109062489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Sep 89

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria Does Not Change Its Stands," AL-BA'TH writes:

Syria is always concerned with strengthening Arab efforts and pan-Arab ties and has always supported reconciliation. On many occasions, Syria overlooked mistakes made by others out of its commitment to all that will benefit the Arabs, unite their stands, and prevent their fragmentation. Syria has never been used

to changing stands or retreating from Arab unanimity. However, despite all this, it has always tried not to give others the justification to disavow their commitments.

If the situation were reversed, Arab leaders at the Casablanca summit would not have adhered to their resolution, which is in fact a Syrian plan that aims to unite, not divide, and concentrate the pan-Arab effort on the one and only course that serves the liberation of the territory and the establishment of the Arab right through Arab means.

AL-BA'TH adds: The leader of our march—the loyal militant, Hafiz al-Asad—is not used to changing his stands. But, he overlooked, or at least ignored, the mistakes made by others on many occasions in order not to allow those who tamper with the pan-Arab destiny to go too far and become tools in the hands of our nation's enemy.

If some people think that Syria's forgiveness represents a change in stands, this is because they do not like to attribute forgiveness to the character of noble men.

Commentary Asks Adherence to Summit Priorities

JN2808175889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: As a result of 'Awn's destructive war, fraternal Lebanon has witnessed a series of tragedies which were reflected in wide-scale destruction, great material and human losses, and a mass exodus from the capital, Beirut.

This mad war only shows the extent to which the conspiratorial clique is involved in the Israeli scheme. It also shows that it is impossible to tame the Lebanese people's will or to subjugate them under the hegemony of the isolationists, forefeit the facts and realities, and entrench the system of privileges and subservience. Furthermore, it shows the need for serious action to find a political solution to the crisis.

The fact is that since the civil war began and since the Syrian Arab forces entered the fraternal country to put the fire out and end bloodshed, it has been clear that the crisis is a political one that requires a political solution, and therefore requires the crystallization of common denominators among the Lebanese.

Hence, in the past few years Syria endeavored to encourage dialogue among the different active parties in the Lebanese arena with the aim of achieving a comprehensive national reconciliation on sound bases which will guarantee Lebanon's unity and the security of its territories, and strengthen its independence and sovereignty.

Syria's efforts have never ceased and more than once were about to reap fruits. But, Israel, which covets the fortunes and land of southern Lebanon, managed to recruit and arm mercenaries and push them into the conflict within the context of its old-new scheme to fragment and balkanize Lebanon and use it as a base against Syria and the Arabs. The invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and the beginning of 'Awn's destructive war in March 1989 were only two episodes in this conspiratorial involvement which aimed to create a second Israel in the region.

Because the conspiracy is big and encroaches on the very heart of Lebanon's Arabism, the Lebanese have more than once urged the Arab leaders to intervene and save them from the dark destiny awaiting them. The events of the past few months have brought about a Lebanese, Arab, and international unanimity on the need for Arabs to deal with this crisis themselves and find the final solution to it.

After the Casablanca summit, there was a unanimity that the summit's resolutions constituted a suitable ground and basis for the desired solution. Even those who called on the UN Security Council to convene were surprised by the Council's call on the Arabs to resume the use of their good offices.

The Lebanese in general pinned great hopes on the Arab committee which emanated from the Casablanca summit. For its part, Syria supported the committee in every possible way. It was also supported by the Lebanese nationalists. However, the results were disappointing. The committee announced its failure in a short period of time although the Arab summit gave it 6 full months to conclude its mission.

The fascist military clique in East Beirut utilized this failure to escalate the shelling, hit at the innocents, displace the Lebanese citizens, and bring about the greatest possible destruction to steadfast, Arab Beirut with the aim of transferring the crisis to the international course.

Hence, we observed the calls for convening a meeting of the UN Security Council and sending forces to the region. Indeed, naval ships were sent to the Lebanese coasts, and the Lebanese atmosphere was made tenser and the enmity against the Lebanese nationalist and Islamic forces and Syria grew. The agent Iraqi regime, which stands with Israel against the Lebanese, took part in this campaign.

But, this hostile hysteria did not deceive the international community which reiterated—whether in the UN Security Council's resolution or through the statements made by heads of states and governments—that there is no alternative to the required reforms which can alone put an end to the Lebanese conflict. The Lebanese nationalists asked the committee to abandon its silence and resume its activity out of their conviction that the internationalization of the crisis would serve 'Awn's plot and only mean further complications and an explosion of the crisis.

Internationalization means fleets, partition, and the implementation of Israel's scheme. Even in the Lebanese areas under the hegemony of 'Awn and the militias, voices were raised demanding an end to the language of the gun. They also demanded political dialogue and the achievement of the desired reforms.

Only yesterday, this demand was made by Patriarch Sufayr. It was also made more than once by Christian deputies and spiritual leaders in East Beirut.

If the Arab committee is now asked to resume its efforts, it is also asked not to fall into the mazes of the crisis. It is also asked to adhere to the Casablanca summit's resolutions and priorities, especially since these resolutions, if implemented, will achieve an honorable solution to the Lebanese crisis that will guarantee the Arabism of the fraternal country, the equality among its citizens before the law, and the achievement of political and social reforms which will cancel sectarian discrimination and set the foundations for a new society open to, and interacting with its Arab nation.

When Arab efforts are directed at finding a fundamental solution to the crisis, these efforts will be welcomed and supported not only by Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces, but also by Arab and international circles and the leading figures in East Beirut, which is under the militias' control.

Wherever they may be, the Lebanese only want to avert the specter of partitioning; end the destructive war; restore the country's unity and its people's brotherly coexistence and their cooperation with their Arab family; liberate the occupied southern part; remove the abnormal current situation; and achieve the political reforms and the national reconciliation desired by all Lebanese.

PDRY Information, Cultural Minister Visits

Confers With Al-Zu'bi

JN3008082089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Mahmud al-Zu'bi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, this evening received Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jarhum, minister of culture and information of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY]. The meeting was attended by Information Minister Muhammad Salman and PDRY Ambassador 'Abduh Satfah. The guest minister was accompanied at this meeting by members of the PDRY delegation: Dr Hasan 'Abdal-Rahman, director general of radio and television; Yahya Tahir, director of the Information Department at the Foreign Ministry; and 'Atiq Sakrim, director of foreign relations at the Culture and Information Ministry. During the meeting, Dr Jarhum conveyed the greetings of PDRY Prime Minister Yasin Sa'id Nu'man to al-Zu'bi, who also asked Dr Jarhum to convey his greetings to Nu'man.

During the meeting, talks dealt with the fraternal and growing relations between Syria and the PDRY and the joint goals that the two fraternal countries are seeking through the promotion of cooperation in all areas. They also stressed the implementation of the information agreement signed in Aden to exchange technical expertise in order to promote contacts between media organs in the two countries. The prime minister was also briefed on the outcome of the PDRY minister's talks aimed at promoting ties of educational and information cooperation. They also stressed the importance of developing this cooperation and using every potential to achieve this goal. The talks also centered on a number of issues of common interest to the two fraternal countries.

Meets Syrian Counterpart

JN3008183889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Damascus—The Syrian Arab delegation headed by Information Minister Muhammad Salman and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] delegation led by PDRY Information Minister Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jarhum held a round of talks this morning.

At the outset of the talks, the information minister welcomed the visiting delegation, paid tribute to the information ties binding the two fraternal states, and hoped that these ties would be further promoted and developed.

For his part, the PDRY information minister praised the development seen in Syria under the leadership of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. He also paid tribute to Syria's pan-Arab and progressive stands.

The two sides discussed ways to develop bilateral information cooperation between the two fraternal countries in the fields of radio, television, publishing, and the exchange of publications and information expertise. They also discussed the possibility of increasing professional media training opportunities being provided to media men and qualifying media cadres. The talks also covered joint coordination on the external information activities with regard to bolstering the pan-Arab policy espoused by the two countries, their progressive stands, and their common struggle against the Zionist enemy.

Received by Al-Shar'

JN3008172489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received this afternoon Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jarhum, minister of culture and information in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY].

The meeting was attended by the PDRY ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, the talks centered on the development of bilateral ties between the two fraternal countries, the current Arab situation, and recent developments in the Lebanese situation.

Voices Support for Policies

JN3008063089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Damascus—Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jarhum, minister of culture and information of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], has affirmed that existing information cooperation reflects the historic ties and the distinguished relations between the two fraternal countries in the past.

In a statement published by AL-BA'TH newspaper today, he said that his current visit to Damascus at the invitation of Information Minister Muhammad Salman is an interpretation of and a response to the information protocol signed by our two countries—a protocol which was one of the important results of the visit to Aden by Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi last spring. Jarhum added: We positively assess this cooperation and we feel that we have the opportunity to promote it and benefit from Syria's expertise. We hope that relations in this area will develop to serve our joint causes and meet the trends of our two parties, the Yemeni Socialist Party and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, under Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid and Comrade leader Hafiz al-Asad.

The minister also noted that existing cooperation relations are strong and cover all aspects of political, economic, social, and cultural life. Jarhum also stressed the PDRY's condemnation of the imperialist and Zionist interference in the fraternal Lebanese people's affairs—interference which is aimed at shaking the Lebanese people's security and stability and threatening their unity and national sovereignty as well as fraternal Syria's security. He added that the Casablanca summit conference adopted resolutions that form a general framework acceptable to the Arabs and the international community to solve the Lebanese problem.

Jarhum also pointed out that these resolutions stress the need for the Israeli forces to withdraw from Lebanon to enable the Lebanese people and their national forces to find the political solution that will save Lebanon from its ordeal. He also noted his country's continued support for Syria in its confrontation with the imperialist and Zionist plans, its defense of the fateful pan-Arab causes, and its support for the struggle of the Palestinian Arab and Lebanese peoples. He said: We support every effort to unify the Arab energies against the Zionist enemy, and that these trends are in harmony with the Arab summit's resolutions and the wise policy of fraternal Syria.

Mashariqah Opens Arab Education Conference

JN2908173689 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1550 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Damascus, 29 Aug (SANA)—The fourth conference of the Arab higher education and scientific research ministers opened here this evening under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad.

Vice President Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah opened the conference on behalf of President al-Asad in the presence of the Arab higher education and scientific research ministers and their delegations as well as a number of senior party and state officials.

On the occasion, Dr Mashariqah delivered a speech in which he stressed that education and knowledge are the basis for all development and progress in any society and that this conference contributes to the nation's development and progress and the attainment of its major objectives.

He also said that the success of the conference in achieving its goals depends largely on the revival of Arab culture and heritage to unify the method and vision and create a unified Arab society.

In his speech, Dr Mashariqah centered on the fateful conflict with the Zionist enemy, urging all the Arabs to confront this growing danger and others that threaten the Arab nation's existence and fate. He also affirmed that the development of scientific and intellectual bases is part of our struggle to survive and confront the challenges facing our nation.

The vice president explained that the necessary strategic parity with the enemy is not only intended to achieve a military balance, but also a more comprehensive human, economic, political, educational balance, as well as military parity.

He added that the mission of this conference is only one aspect of action to achieve the strategic parity desired by the Arab nation. He called for directing Arab efforts toward the major danger and averting the peripheral Arab conflicts in order to preserve Arab existence and enable the Arabs to confront that growing danger threatening the homeland, the citizens, and the present and future entity.

He also mentioned the kinfolk's intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territories, describing it as a real revolution against occupation and aggression and as an important turning point in the history of the Arab-Zionist conflict, adding that it deserves all support and assistance. He called for supporting the heroes of the resistance in Lebanon and occupied Golan. He said that this resistance constitutes a new and honorable landmark in our struggle and our confrontation with the enemy.

Mashariqah referred to the Lebanese situation and crisis, stressing that since the eruption of the civil war, Syria

has been supporting Lebanon's unity and those who work to achieve Lebanon's unity and Arabism.

Mashariqah added that the current situation in Lebanon proves the need for halting the civil war, achieving political and constitutional reforms that will cancel the present sectarian system, reaching equality among the Lebanese in terms of rights and duties, and providing equal opportunities. He also affirmed that Syria will support Arab Lebanon and will never tolerate any encroachment on Lebanon's unity.

Talas Speaks at Naval Anniversary Ceremony

JN2908191889 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of leader President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, our Naval forces this morning celebrated their birthday. [passage omitted]

Deputizing for the president at the ceremony was General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief, deputy prime minister, and minister of defense. [passage omitted]

Gen Mustafa Talas, representative of the patron of the celebrations, delivered a speech amidst an echoing storm of clapping and cheering to celebrate the life of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, brother struggler Hafiz al-Asad. Talas began by conveying the greetings of his excellency the president and his good wishes to the fighters in accomplishing their national and pan-Arab tasks. He said that celebrating this birthday means continuing a struggle begun by our grandfathers at the battle of Dhat-al-Sawari, extending to our own day, and continuing to defend the dignity of the nation and the honor of the Arab masses, and keeping our coasts secure and our waters free from the impurities of the aggressors.

In his speech, the general reviewed the history of our Navy, its continuing struggle, and its efforts to absorb all the new and developing naval arms and equipment so that our Navy will have an important, basic, and effective role in the battle with destiny.

The general discussed the difficult circumstances our Arab nation is currently facing. He also discussed the conspiracies being woven by Zionist and imperialist circles against the region in cooperation with their henchmen, who have accepted the role of followers and who allow themselves to be used to serve the goals of Zionism and their own personal interests.

In his speech, the general affirmed that what is happening in the Lebanese arena is a great conspiracy whose aim is to fragment Lebanon and the Arab nation, and to disperse the Arab Syrian efforts to prevent Israel from realizing its expansionist goals. He also said that the agents are bartering with the Lebanese crisis and gambling with the Palestine question and have bound themselves to the Arab nation's enemies and have entered the Zionist-imperialist settlement camp. To top off this conspiracy, the Zionized 'Awn has allied himself with fascist Saddam and Lebanon's enemies to threaten national security, fragment the Arab nation, and suppress its identity.

In his speech, the general pointed out what had happened in the past to foreign fleets which came, and were defeated, degraded, and depressed. He affirmed that history repeats itself and that whoever tries to play with fire will inevitably be burned, because Syria and the Lebanese nationalist forces are lying in wait for them. Al-Asad's Damascus shall always remain by Lebanon's side, providing it with the elements of force and immunity and buttressing its Arab existence through national constants and pan-Arab demands which affirm its unity, Arab identity, and pure-bloodedness. Those wagering on removing Lebanon from the Arab circle are deluding themselves.

Concluding his speech, the general renewed the pledge of loyalty to leader al-Asad and his triumphant march on behalf of our naval forces. He affirmed that awareness, preparedness, and high morale are basic elements in the life of our Navy, and that the slogan of either martyrdom or victory shall forever remain a lighthouse guiding the course in the future. [passage omitted]

Afghanistan

Spokesman Acknowledges Loss of 2 Posts in Khowst

LD3108183189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] As a result of mopping-up operations carried out at the south and southeastern precincts of Jalalabad City, 20 boxes of ZK-1 [as heard] ammunition, 81 shells of recoilless guns, 127 mortar mines, 95 rocket launcher shells, and three boxes of ammunition for infantry weapons, belonging to the Pakistani-backed extremist groups, were seized.

In reporting this point to the military section of BAKHTAR, a competent source of the Armed Forces said that the enemy, assisted by the fire power of Pakistan's Army Corps No 11, continued heavy weapons fire yesterday on the units positioned on the frontline and residential regions outside the city of Jalalabad, causing injury to Armed Forces personnel.

The source added that the courageous units and subunits of the Armed Forces inflicted heavy blows on the enemy positions as a result of which 10 of the enemy were killed and another 12 were wounded.

The source added that the joint enemy forces composed of the armed extremist groups, Pakistani militarists, and Wahhabi Saudi mercenaries, carried out a military operation yesterday in some regions of Khowst Major District including Tanay district, as a result of which two security posts have temporarily been evacuated. Combat operations for the seizure of these security posts is fiercely continuing. During this operation 5 personnel of the Armed Forces were martyred and another 14 were wounded.

The Armed Forces source reported that the courageous units and subunits stationed in this region have repulsed the joint enemy invasion with courage and bravery, inflicting heavy losses on the enemies of our Muslim people by heavy artillery, rocket, and air strikes.

According to another report, as a result of retaliatory blows by the armed forces which took place in some regions of Qandahar Province in response to shelling by the Pakistani-backed armed extremists, 15 enemies including two ringleaders from the extremist Gulbuddin [Hekmatyar] group, namely Abdul Shukor and Lalu, were crushed.

BAKHTAR's military section reported that the organs of the Ministry of State Security today discovered and seized one Milan missile which was hidden in Shakardara District, during a mopping-up operation.

Heavy Fighting Reported

BK0109030489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Heavy fighting between the mujahidin and the Kabul regime forces has been reported from around Khowst, the northern city of Paktia Province in Afghanistan. Mujahidin sources said that they have made some progress and captured some posts between Khowst and the Pakistani border. Reports say that the mujahidin are now between 5 to 8 km away from the (?garrison) town, and their progress was made possible as a result of seizing two major posts in (Saidghai) and (Busar Khan) in the northwest.

Kabul regime authorities have now acknowledged that they lost two posts, but claimed that they are fighting to regain them.

60 Government Troops Defect

BK0109100089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 1 (AFP)—More than 60 Afghan soldiers have defected to the mujahidin forces after a general amnesty for government troops defending the country's besieged Khowst garrison was declared, guerrilla sources said Friday.

They said mujahidin guerrillas under the command of Jalauddin Haqqani have seized Dargai base 13 kilometers (eight miles) west of Khowst while Tor Ghandi, Noor Kalan and Hal Basat in the eastern Jaji area some 30 kilometers (20 miles) north of the garrison town also fell in a fierce overnight battle.

The commander in Dargai was killed along with several officers when two tanks they were attempting to flee in were destroyed by mujahidin gunners, Mr. Haqqani's spokesman said in a telephone interview.

A junior officer briefly assumed command but he too was killed, the spokesman said.

Sixty government soldiers defected to the guerrilla forces, he said, adding that the government's grip on Khowst, about 150 kilometers (100 miles) southeast of Kabul close to the Pakistan border, was weakening.

Resistance sources said scores of families of Afghan Government troops were seeking mujahidin protection and that the guerrillas were now some six kilometers (four miles) from the garrison town.

The guerrillas have made further advances from the south, east and southwest of Khowst as the government troops, facing shortages, withdrew from Walliam post eight kilometers (five miles) west of the garrison.

The official Afghan news agency BAKHTAR in a dispatch Friday confirmed that government troops suffered setbacks in the battle for Khowst.

"Troops under enemy pressure" have retreated from two security posts in the region, the agency said, but added that operations were continuing to re-occupy the lost positions.

The agency said five government soldiers were killed and 14 wounded in the operation.

Observers said the government figures indicated that fighting was heavy, because the official Afghan media usually gives only minimal casaulty figures.

Mujahidin Attack Qandahar Airport, Destroy MiG

BK3108111389 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have attacked the Qandahar airport and destroyed a MiG aircraft. They captured the pilot of the plane.

The mujahidin also captured the post of (Jabhuwal) near Qandahar where 17 Kabul regime troops surrendered to the mujahidin with arms and ammunition.

Mujahidin Captured 4 Kabul Posts in Late Aug

BK0109090589 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have captured four Kabul regime posts west of Chaghcharan, the capital city of Ghowr Province. They also captured another important post near the airport of the capital city during the 3d week of last month. The report says 41 Kabul regime soldiers were killed and 12 others were captured by the mujahidin along with a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

War Casualties Increase Since Soviet Pullout

BK0109094689 Hong Kong AFP in English 0941 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 1 (AFP)—The Afghan civil war has been claiming an ever-increasing number of victims, especially since the Soviet troop pullout began 15 months ago, said the chief of the Red Cross delegation here.

Andre Collomb, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegation in Pakistan, said figures collected at his agency's hospitals showed a marked inrease in the number of wounded since Moscow began the phased pullout of its forces on May 15, 1988.

The Soviet withdrawal was completed on February 15.

In 1987, the organization treated 3,000 wounded at its two hospitals in Peshawar and Quetta, located on the Pakistan side of the frontier.

But last year the number of wounded jumped by half, to 4,528. There were 9,299 operations performed, two-thirds of them in the last half of the year.

Mr. Collomb called this year's numbers "very worrying," as 3,302 persons have been treated in just the first six months.

More than one million people are estimated to have been killed in the war since the Soviet military intervention in 1979.

The conflict pits supporters of President Najibullah and his Kabul regime, backed by Moscow, against a Muslim guerrilla force composed primarily of seven Sunni Muslim factions supported by the United States and Pakistan.

Mr. Collomb said he was "disturbed" about the current situation in Kabul, where the mujahidin have intensified rocket attacks over the last two months.

In July alone an estimated 600 people were wounded in the rocketing with some 250 of them treated by the Red Cross.

The ICRC has two hospitals along the border with Afghanistan that have treated 23,287 wounded and performed 47,347 operations since 1981.

The Geneva-based humanitarian organization has 85 employeees representing some dozen nationalities working in its Pakistan facilities, which in addition to the two hospitals include 10 emergency clinics, an orthopedics center and a center for the care of paraplegics.

There are 60 workers in the Afghan cities of Kabul, Herat and Mazar-e Sharif.

On August 28, an ICRC field officer in Pakistan, Muhammad Zaker, 40, was gunned down by unknown assailants in Peshawar while on his way to work.

French Bomb Disposal Experts To Train Afghans

BK0109011689 Hong Kong AFP in English 2154 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 31 (AFP)—Nineteen French soldiers arrived here Thursday [31 August] on a four-month mission to train Afghan bomb disposal experts and make Afghan refugees aware of the estimated several million mines planted in their country, a diplomat said.

The mission is part of "Operation Salam," a project under U.N.-auspices to rebuild Afghanistan.

The French team arrived from Djibouti with its equipment and is expected to go Friday to Peshawar, a Pakistani town on the border with Afghanistan where Canadian, Australian and New Zealand teams are already working.

Three million Afghan refugees live in Pakistan and, when they are eventually repatriated, will face a danger from millions of mines planted in Afghanistan since a civil war broke out over 10 years ago.

Spanish Citizen on 'Illegal Entry' Into Country

LD0109071789 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 30, BAKHTAR—A Spanish citizen who had illegally entered via Spin Buldak into the territory of the Republic of Afghanistan appeared here today at a press conference held in Foreign Affairs

Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan and replied to the questions of local and foreign journalists.

Garcia, the Spanish citizen, was captured on July 30, 1989 by tribal detachment in Qandahar Province south of the country and was handed over to the country's security forces. The accused introduced himself as a tourist and a writer. He admitted that he accompanied by Shafiullah from the band of Islamic Unity entered Barikowt via Chatral and then travelled to Nawa, Asmar, Jagha Sarai, Asadabad and Shiveh regions in Afghanistan.

He said: "I visited a military training camp named Chamar Khan Camp where I was introduced with about 20 Pakistani citizens and with six foreigners from Sudan, Malaysia, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia who were receiving training together with the Afghan extremists for attack on Jalalabad". He added that Pakistani citizens told him there that they carry Jihad against the government of Afghanistan and then they will start Jihad against Philippine Government.

Garcia added: "After visiting the said camp I along with Shafiullah came to Towr Kham. After a short stay there we came back to Peshawar and through Peshawar I visited India, Nepal and Burma and then I entered Afghanistan for the second time via Spin Buldak". Before his arrival to Spin Buldak he visited widows camps in the border of Pakistan where the women were bought and sold by Wahabis aims at dividing Afghanistan into two parts like Korea, he said.

Touching on the internal confrontations among the extremists, Garcia pointed out that there exists intrinsic conflicts between the extremist bands not for the cause of Islam but on smuggling of narcotics and the deposit of wealth via Towr Kham Port and other borders of Afghanistan.

Garcia in his assertions substantiated the policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan and explained it a principled policy for ensuring peace in Afghanistan and confirmed the strength of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan in countering interferences of Pakistan and Pakistani-supported extremists. He also accused Pakistan on breaching the Geneva Accords and its armed interventions against the Republic of Afghanistan.

Accused Garcia, aged 35, is under interrogation for his illegal entry into the territory of Afghanistan.

India

Logistic System Built Up in Siachen Area

BK3108155889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The Indian Army and the Air Force have built up a foolproof logistic support system in the Siachen area in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir to sustain the troops at the 7,000 meter high Siachen Glacier. A first-rate chain of medical support system has been created to enable the evacuation of casualties from the forwardmost post to the best possible medical attention within 30 minutes. They can be further evacuated to a base hospital in Delhi within an hour and half. All-weather roads have been constructed and the troops are being supplied with the best ration.

The Siachen sector commander, Major General Raghavan, told a group of visiting newsmen that it is no longer difficult for the troops to stay at the snow-bound Siachen area.

Our special correspondent, John Churchill, who visited the glacier reports that Indian troops are holding the dominant positions in the strategic passes of the Sia La, the Belafond La, the Chungchang La, Indira Col, and the Saltoro which control access to Siachen. Our correspondent says the Pakistani troops made several attempts in the past to dislodge the Indian troops from the strategic positions but were repulsed.

Siachen Situation Viewed

BK0109035089 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The Siachen area has in the recent past seen several attempts by Pakistani troops to dislodge [troops of] India from strategic positions. All these attempts were repulsed. Our correspondent, Prabhat Sabrewal, visited the Siachen area to file this report:

[Begin Sabrewal recording] It is indeed the highest battlefield in the world. Though there is no full-scale war going on, occasional exchanges of artillery fire shatters the icy stillness of the Siachen along with the glacier in the Himalayas.

Known as the cold front, Siachen is flanked by snow-clad mountains as high as 23,000 feet. Temperatures dip to 50 degrees below freezing point, and bone-chilling winds make any form of life almost impossible. Indian Army has its pickets all along the Siachen glacier and on the Saltoro ridge, defending it with determination and valor. No other army has ever faced this kind of inhospitable terrain and weather conditions; 21-23,000 feet above the sea level, lack of oxygen makes breathing extremely difficult.

I am speaking from Kumar base camp on the Siachen glacier at 15,000 feet above the sea level. It is only a few kilometers away from Sia La base. Beyond Sia La, there is no habitation whatsoever in and around Siachen. Army patrols, however, go right up to Indira Col, establishing India's complete control over Siachen and Saltoro ridge. Helicopters of Army and Air Force maintain the lifeline on these forbidding mountains. Shuttling across the dangerous valley to supply food, kerosene, and ammunition to the forward post, they keep the morale of the troops high. The boys are of such morale that they will fight for each and every inch of Siachen. We are

dominating our adversary all along the AGPL [expansion unknown], and morale is very high. [end recording]

Agreement Reached With Iran on 'Common Matters'

BK3108050089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] India and Iran have reached an agreement on a number of common matters, including better facilities for visas to students and businessmen. The agreement was reached at a meeting between visiting Iranian deputy foreign minister, Mr Javad Mansuri, and the foreign secretary, Mr S.K.Singh, in New Delhi yesterday. Mr Mansuri is a member of the nine-member delegation headed by the Iranian foreign minister, Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Accord Signed for Lease of Arabsat Satellite

BK3108132289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] New Delhi has signed an agreement with the Arabsat Satellite Organization, a consortium of Arab nations. Under it, its 12-C band transponders on board the Arabsat spacecraft will be secured on lease for 2 years to provide backup to the Indian national satellite system for augmenting its capacity.

Spokesman Comments on Planning SAARC Summit

BK2908103089 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Official spokesman statement on the 28th August.

(Question): What are your comments on the TIMES OF INDIA story about the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] secretariat in Kathmandu, taking decision on the timings and venue of the next summit?

(Answer): All decision regarding the SAARC summit are taken as a result of consultations between member countries. The venue and timing of the SAARC cannot be determined, or decided upon, by the SAARC secretariat. You may recall that the foreign ministers of Bangladesh, Pakistan and Maldives had all visited Delhi recently and had consultations on this issue. These consultations are under way.

(Question): Can Colombo be ruled out as the next venue of the summit?

(Answer): No. Consultations are still underway.

(Question): Has the meeting of the foreign ministers which was deferred in Islamabad, been decided upon?

(Answer): The foreign ministers' meeting has not been conclusively decided upon, so it is doubly premature to decide when and where the summit would take place.

Paper Warns Against Extending Stay in Sri Lanka

BK3108124389 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 24 Aug 89 p 8

[Editorial: "Another Warning"]

[Text] Velvettiturai, the small town on Sri Lanka's northern coast, has become a blemish on the Indian Army which it will find hard to live down. The detailed account of the IPKF's [Indian Peacekeeping Force] attack on August 2 on the residents of the town given by David Housego, the correspondent of the FINANCIAL TIMES, London, after a visit there shows the barbarity of it all. It shows too the lunacy of what is going on in that hapless country. The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] ambushed an IPKF patrol in the marketplace. The Indian jawans [soldiers] fired back and followed up with chilling reprisals against the inhabitants. According to the local citizens' committee, the enraged troops left 52 civilians dead and set fire to 120 houses. There have been other incidents of this kind, many of them provoked by the LTTE, in the last two years but this is the most shocking of them all. It has again served to underline the high cost the men of the IPKF have had to pay in terms of earning a bad name.

A guerilla war on home ground can be trying enough for a regular army to counter. In the present case, the Indian Army has been asked to deal with well-armed guerrillas on foreign soil. The jawans' position has become particularly unenviable because they are unable to see how the deadly responsibility thrust on them by the Indian Government served the nation's cause. Today the IPKF has no sense of purpose. It has no friends. And every day our soldiers see their colleagues dying. Demoralisation, the feeling that no one values what one is doing, indeed what one is dying for removes all inhibitions. A provocation triggers brutality. That is the sequence. But it is no extenuation. Not in the eyes of the Sinhalese, nor in the eyes of the Tamils whom the IPKF is ostensibly there to protect.

Nor will the fact that this brutality has followed the unvarying, predictable sequence moderate the consequences of the events for the Indian Army. Quite the contrary. The fact that our men are so much on edge that they have begun to react in this way is yet another reason to hasten back.

'Terrorist' Planned To Kill Kashmir Chief

BK0109020689 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, a dreaded terrorist—who was arrested yesterday—has revealed that he had a plan to kill the state chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, and his family. This was stated by the chief minister in the State Assembly today.

The police arrested the terrorist from a hideout in the border district of Kotwara. The police have recovered 48

(?pot) bombs, 50 Chinese-made grenades, 4 detonators, 4 pistols, and a large quantity of ammunition from the terrorist.

Seven Killed, Several Injured in Assam Violence

BK3108164289 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] In Assam, seven [as heard] persons have been killed and several others injured in violent incidents in Barpeta and Kokrajhar Districts. The dead include three Bodo militants. Reports reaching Guwahati say about 300 Bodo militants and their supporters attacked (Nathun Bazaar) village in Barpeta District this morning and killed three persons on the spot. Several others were injured. The attackers also set ablaze several houses in the area. The police rushed to the spot and fired several rounds killing three militants on the spot and injuring several others. One Sten gun, two guns, and several rounds of ammunition were recovered from the killed militants.

Gandhi Addresses Sikh Party Delegation 29 Aug

BK3008073789 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] The prime minister has reiterated the government's commitment to fight terrorism and communal forces. Addressing a delegation of Sikhs led by Akali Dal chief, Master Tara Singh Group, Jathedar Rachpal Singh, when they called on him in New Delhi yesterday, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said Sikhs have made great sacrifices for the country. He said at present they are engaged in fighting terrorism with courage.

Mr Gandhi told the delegation that action had already been taken against more than 2,000 people for instigating violence [against Sikhs after Mrs Gandhi's assassination] in 1984 in Delhi and elsewhere. Some of them have been convicted, he added.

Paper Cited on Singh's Financial Links

BK2808035989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] The First Trust Corporation Limited existed and operated in the Caribbean island of Saint Kitts during the period in which the Janata Dal leader [and former finance minister], Mr V.P. Singh's son, Mr Ajay Singh, is alleged to have deposited $21 million, the Kuwaiti English daily ARAB TIMES has reported. The paper claimed its latest report is based on its correspondent's investigations and interviews with government officials, local businessmen, banking officials and other reliable sources in Saint Kitts.

Inquiry Planned

BK3108041889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] The government is to inquire into the alleged foreign bank accounts of millions of dollars in the name of the Janata Dal leader Mr V.P. Singh's family members. A PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] report quoting the union minister of state for parliamentary affairs, Mrs Sheila Dikshit, says that action is to be taken against him if the allegations were found correct. She claimed there is no substance in the clarifications given by Mr V.P. Singh that his son did not visit Arab countries when the alleged accounts were opened. Mrs Dikshit was talking to newsmen in Mathura yesterday.

6 Percent Growth Rate Envisaged in 5-Year Plan

BK2908041889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] The draft approach paper for the eighth 5-year plan endorsed by the full meeting of the Planning Commission in New Delhi yesterday aims at a growth rate of 6 percent per annum. This is higher than the growth rate in any of the previous plans. It also envisages a 3 percent growth in employment opportunities and bringing down the percentage of population below the poverty line by another 10 percent. The paper was endorsed by the full meeting of the Planning Commission in New Delhi last evening. It was presided over by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, who is the chairman of the Planning Commission.

Briefing newsmen, an official spokesman said the main objectives of the plan are to provide adequate work opportunities, food, clothing, shelter, education, and healthcare facilities to the masses, particularly the weaker sections. It is envisaged that by the end of the eighth plan, only 18 to 20 percent of the population will be below the poverty line. Emphasis will be given on employment generation through Jawahar Rozgar Yojana [employment scheme] with particular attention to urban employment. The thrust will be on comprehensive direct-level planning, decentralization, and people's involvement in the process. Panchayati Raj institutions and Nagarpalika bodies [village council-based administration institutions and municipal bodies] are to get high priority.

Public sector outlay during the eighth plan is proposed to be stepped up to 350,000 crore from the seventh plan outlay of 180,000 crore rupees. The points made during the discussion will be considered at a Cabinet meeting to be held next month.

Two Oilfields Discovered in Rajasthan

BK2708155689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] The Oil and Natural Gas Commission—ONGC—has discovered two oilfields in Bhutalu and Nanhar Tibba in Rajasthan. Disclosing this in Baroda today, an ONGC spokesman told PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] that the crude oil found in the Bhutalu Well No 2 has brightened the prospects of locating more oil in Rajasthan. The commission has plans to invest over 140 crore rupees for exploratory works in the area.

Iran

Lavasani: Talks With Iraq 'Not Possible'

LD0109083589 Tehran IRNA in English 0818 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 1, IRNA—Direct talks with Iraq are not possible as long as Iraqi troops remain on Iranian soil, an Iranian official reiterated.

He said when Iranian and Iraqi representatives meet here under the auspices of the UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Iraqi withdrawal would be the most important issue on the agenda.

Deputy Foreign Minister for International Affairs Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani said Iraq's insistance on holding face to face talks was aimed at undermining UN Security Council Resolution 598.

"Those who want to eliminate the role of the UN and the secretary general are seeking to undermine the framework of the resolution," he said in an interview with IRNA. He said the resolution and the 1975 Algiers treaty could be the only basis for a permanent peace but Baghdad had delayed the achievement of this goal by refusing to retreat from Iranian soil.

"Iraqi sabotage is only for the purpose of weakening the resolution and the role of the security general for its implementation," Lavasani said.

On moves to modernize the Non-Aligned Movement, the Iranian official stressed that the organization must retain its anti-colonial nature while undergoing reorganization.

"A correct assessment of recent (international) developments is a must in order to solve world problems especially those facing the third world countries," he said.

At the same time he stressed that the movement should preserve its fundamental principles.

Lavasani said the issue of accepting non-member states and organizations as guests at NAM meeting was not objectionable but this had to be done with certain points in mind.

If guest participation continued in an unprincipled manner it could "face the movement with unpredictable problems," he said.

The Iranian official also urged the non-aligned to take a stand against the West's attack on the cultural values of Third World countries—a reference to the row over the blasphemous novel 'The Satanic Verses'.

"We feel that the non-aligned should give special priority to this issue," he said.

He said the matter had been raised in the NAM ministerial meeting in Harare in May.

Velayati Departs for Nonaligned Summit, Comments

LD3108105389 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug 31, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati left Tehran at the head of a high-ranking delegation for the Yugoslav capital of Belgrade Thursday [31 August] morning to attend the ninth summit of the Non-aligned Movement (NAM).

The Iranian delegation is to attend the foreign ministers session of NAM to open on Friday and the summit scheduled for next Monday.

In an interview before departure he said that reconsidering past policies and stands of the movement, economic situation and debt of third world countries, world crisis among them situation in Lebanon, Afghanistan, Kampuchea and South Africa are high in the agenda of the summit.

As for reconsidering past performance of the movement, Velayati said "In light of relatively significant international developments the need is felt in the movement for reviewing its past stands so that the movement can keep up with the world changes."

"I hope the Ninth Summit will be able to materialize the goals of the movement suitable to the present world conditions and that the summit will be a turning point in history of the movement," he said.

"What has taken place in the past has not been suitable to the goals of the people of the member countries and the Third World," he added.

On Iraq-Iran war, Velayati said "I hope with the presence of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in the summit we will witness a serious move for the implementation of the UN Resolution 598."

He added that De Cuellar has also expressed the hope to hold talks and consultations with Iran and Iraq foreign ministers for progress on implementation of the resolution.

Iran's foreign minister also said that along with the summit he will hold talks with a number of heads of state and foreign ministers attending the summit.

Velayati Makes Stopover in Rome

LD3108210389 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Rome, Aug 31, IRNA—Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati arrived here Thursday for a stopover enroute to Yugoslavia.

Velayati and his accompanying delegation are to take part in the ninth summit meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to be held in Belgrade Sept 4-7.

The Iranian delegation is to leave Rome tonight. Velayati left Tehran this morning.

Editorial Calls for Nonaligned Restructuring

LD3008073689 Tehran IRNA in English 0705 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug 30, IRNA—An Iranian daily said Wednesday that the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) needed to restructure its policies and stands if it wanted to serve the legitimate rights and interests of its people.

The coming Belgrade summit meet would show if the movement has undertaken the necessary assessment and readjustments to the present international situation, said KEYHAN INTERNATIONAL in its editorial. The daily criticised the poor record of the NAM in achieving its cherished goals—bringing peace and prosperity for the two billion people, over two thirds of the U.N. member countries, which it represents. "The core of NAM's problem is that it must set its own house in order before it can play any effective role on the world scene," said the English daily.

The daily raised the question whether the forthcoming Belgrade summit would succeed in bringing a 'rennaissance' and reform of NAM or would follow the ritual of issuing long declarations, thick documents and a wasteland of empty-worded resolutions.

Satellite Cooperation Accord Signed With USSR

LD3108124189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] This morning the deputy of Soviet Union's Satellite Organization met officials from our country's geographic and space exploration [Dur-Kavi] organization of the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics. That meeting involved discussion and exchange of opinion on border issues and the utilization of satellite systems.

The Central News Unit reports that the delegation's visit takes place in the wake of a visit paid to the Soviet Union by a delegation from the Defense Ministry. The Soviet delegation is visiting to discuss geographical issues; it will have fruitful results for both sides in connection with satellite systems.

According to the same report, in meetings between the Soviet delegation and officials from the country's Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics, an agreement was signed for further cooperation between that Ministry's Organization for Geographic and Space Exploration Affairs and the Soviet Union's Satellite Organization.

Envoy to Soviet Union Received by Bessmertnykh

LD2908184689 Tehran IRNA in English 1756 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug 29, IRNA—The upward trend of Tehran-Moscow relations was discussed in a meeting in Moscow Tuesday between Iranian ambassador to the Soviet Union Nasser Heirani-Nobari and Soviet acting foreign minister Aleksandr Bessmernykh.

The two also discussed the latest developments in the region and other matter of mutual interest.

They termed the continuation of contacts at the level of leadership between the two countries as a major factor for consolidation of mutual ties.

Tehran Notes Muslim Celebrations in Soviet Union

LD2808193289 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Muslims living in the European [as heard] republics and Siberian region of the USSR staged a splendid ceremony to celebrate and honor the 1,100th anniversary of the arrival of the true religion of Islam to these regions. According to the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY in its news section last night, Radio Baku said: These ceremonies were staged by the Office for the Affairs of Muslims of the Volga region, at a spot beside the Volga river which was the site where the religion of Islam first began to spread. In these ceremonies, a large number of Muslims living in these regions and representatives from 30 Muslim countries were present. The ceremonies were accompanied by religious prayers specific to Muslims, including congregational prayers.

The 200th anniversary of the opening of the Office for the Affairs of Muslims of the USSR's Volga region was also honored.

Austrian Envoy Mock Calls for Increased Ties

LD3008171489 Tehran IRNA in English 1621 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug 30, IRNA—Austrian Ambassador to Tehran Herbert Traxl met deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs here today, and delivered a message from Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock for his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Mock in his message called for expansion of Tehran-Vienna ties.

Mahmud Vaezi in the meeting expressed hope that mutual relations would expand in the light of the current appropriate ground.

Daily Warns Turkey Against Alliance With Israel

LD2908122889 Tehran IRNA in English 1024 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug 29, IRNA—A Persian daily Tuesday warned the Turkish Government against alliance with the Zionist regime saying that it could provoke serious dangers for Turkey.

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI commenting on recommendation to Turkey and Iraq by top U.S. security experts in a recent seminar in Washington urging them to cooperate

with Israel, said this is not the first time Washington is formulating policies for the region.

The U.S. experts recommended that Turkey and Iraq, in solving their internal problems—supressing the Kurds—count on the Zionist regime's military and intelligence facilities. They also called on them to conclude a tripartite military-intelligence pact.

Describing the move as an insult on Turkish people, government and media, JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI said that the objective of Washington is to widen scope of its influence and interference in the region.

Reaction of the Turkish people, government, and media to the U.S. humiliating proposal is not yet clear, said the daily.

Washington by making such a proposal has acted so shamelessly that it is unlikely it will receive a favourable response, the daily said.

It is likely that Turkey will only ignore such a "foolish proposal" with a ridiculing smile, said the editorial.

As for Iraq, the daily said that such U.S. proposals to the Iraqi regime are not surprising, describing it compatible with the treacherous policies of the Ba'thist regime, a regime which is after turning the Islamic Iraq into an imperialist base against regional states, concluded the daily.

Tehran on U.S. Naval Visit to Turkish Port

NC3108090589 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] The people of Antalya in Turkey have strongly protested against the behavior of U.S. troops in the port of Antalya and demanded that they withdraw immediately from Turkey. The Iranian news agency has reported from Ankara that the inferior, shameless, and anti-Islamic behavior of the U.S. forces has made the Muslim people of the port city indignant.

According to reports from Antalya, the city's people have protested against the insulting and shameless behavior of the U.S. forces toward women and demanded that they leave immediately.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Appoints Planning Directors

LD3108174789 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president, today appointed Mr Mas'ud Rowghani-Zanjani as the director of the plan and budget organization. The text of the decree of the president is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful, Your Excellency Mr Mas'ud Rowghani-Zanjani, in view of your past record and experiences and on the basis of principle 126 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I entrust the administration of the affairs of the plan and budget organization to your excellency and I appoint you as the director of the plan and budget organization. I beseech God for your success in performing this heavy duty.

[Signed] Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Also in separate decrees by the president, Messrs Hadi Manafi and Reza Amrollahi were appointed respectively as the director of the organization for the protection of the environment and the director of the atomic energy organization. Mr Seyyed Mohammad Mir-Mohammadi has also been appointed as the head of the presidential office.

Khamene'i Names Rezvani to Council of Guardians

LD3108173189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today in a decree appointed Ayatollah Gholam Reza Rezvani as a member of the Council of Guardians. The text of the decree is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Ayatollah Mr Haj Sheykh Gholam Reza Rezvani, may your blessings continue. In view of principle 91 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic about the Council of Guardians, which was formed to safeguard sacred Islamic laws and the Constitution and to ensure that the resolutions of the Islamic Consultative Assembly do not contradict them, and as the appointment of jurisprudents of that council is within the powers of the leader, and also in view of the scientific and practical qualities of your excellency which were also regarded very highly by our late illustrious imam, may he be admitted to God's paradise, I appoint you as a member of that council. I beseech God almighty for your success and the success of other esteemed members in safeguarding the straight path of Islam and the revolution.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i

Commentary Foresees Successful Future for Cabinet

LD3108131489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Unattributed commentary: "The Start of the Work of the New Cabinet"]

[Excerpts] Yesterday, the new 22-member cabinet of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani began its 1st day of formal activities after having obtained a vote of confidence from the Islamic Consultative Assembly. The members of the cabinet, accompanied by the president, at the start of their work, paid a visit to the shrine of Imam Khomeyni—may his dust be sanctified—and renewed their allegiance with the exalted imam. They emphasized the continuation of the path of the founder of the Islamic Republic. The members of the cabinet later met with His

Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the revolutionary system of the Islamic Republic. [passage omitted]

The approval of the new cabinet by the Majlis can be termed as the first success of the president, since the president—by bearing in mind all difficulties and problems, without giving in to political biases—proposed individuals whom he thought would be appropriate for the task of accepting the responsibilities of their ministries, and obtained a vote of confidence from the Majlis. In the choice of ministers, the president paid attention to their specializations and their practical experience in their relevant areas of responsibilities. When he introduced his cabinet to the Majlis, while emphasizing this point, he also introduced the new cabinet as an efficient cabinet.

The vote of confidence given by the Majlis to the ministers, which can be defined as approval of their activities and programs, in addition to acting as backing to the ministers in their task of executing their programs, also shows the decisive decision of all the officials in the different ranks of the legislature and executive to endeavor to speed up the progress of work on and implementation of the plans and programs. On the other hand, the vote of confidence in all the ministers demonstrates the coordination between the deputies, the president and the ministers in that they agree with each other. This coordination can be considered to be the beginning of greater cooperation between the branches of legislature and executive in the next 4 years.

In view of the close relationship existing between the executive and legislative branches, coordination between these two branches will eliminate many obstacles and result in many successes. With the existence of this cooperation, laws ratified by the Majlis's can be better implemented by the executive branch. It is from this perspective that one can envisage a sucessful future for the new cabinet.

Khamene'i Marks Martyrdom of Raja'i, Bahonar

LD3008130489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Excerpt] This morning, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, met with various strata of people from Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiari Province, and from Esfahan, Yazd, and Fuman. Pointing to the martyrdom of Raja'i and Dr Bahonar [Iran's president and prime minister respectively, killed by a bomb blast in 1981] at the hands of the blind-hearted Monafeqin [hypocrites—derogatory reference to Mojahedin-e Khalq—he further emphasized: The people should never let their grudge against the Monafeqin and those with evil personalities disappear.]

An IRNA correspondent reports that during the meeting, which was accompanied by the enthusiastic chanting of the attendants—such as: God's hand is above our heads, while Khamene'i is our leader; and: We are all your soldiers, awaiting your orders—the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran referred to the tragedy of 30 August 1981, which lead to the martyrdom of our country's president and prime minister, graciously stating: Our people are well aware of those criminal and filthy faces who martyred those two faithful and selfless individuals. Today, the Monafeqin are damned and shunned by the faithful servants of God. The people never should allow their grudge against the Monafeqin and its evil to leave their hearts.

Our country's leader mentioned that our religion consists of affection and grudge, or tavalla [friendship with the friends of God] and tabarra [distancing oneself from the enemies of God]. He graciously added: Affection for those who are good, deprived, or have been subjected to the wrath of satans, as well as grudges and emnity against satans and filthy personalities who disregard humanity are all parts of our religion. The people should not forget the ugly characteristics of the enemies of God and the people. At the same time, they should increase daily their affection for the pious servants of God.

The leader of Islamic revolution then pointed to the power and strength of the people over the past 10 years, graciously stating: As long as this nation is present with its power and might in the defense of Islam and revolution, it will overcome all obstacles and problems. The enemy, through its temptations, will not be able to shake people's hearts because our nation is aware, alert, and full of enthusiasm.

The Muslims' vice regent [vali-e amr] considered faith in God and the unity of expression among the people following the heart- wrenching demise of the great leader of Islamic revolution—Imam Khomeyni, may his dust be sanctified—as responsible for bringing about more praise from the world for the proud nation of Iran. At the end of his speech, he stressed that the existing problems will be resolved through the blessing of faith and unity of expression among the people. He graciously concluded: Through the will of the nation, a powerful, enthusiastic, and functional government has come about. The Majlis gave its vote of confidence to the new government with the utmost vigilance. The support of people for the officials promises a very bright and hopeful future. Global arrogance should be aware that it cannot do a damned thing in the face of such officials, who enjoy the support of the people. [passage omitted]

TV Relay Station Commissioned in Chahar Mahall

LD2908093389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Text] With the installation of the television relay station in the village of Sudejan, Shahr-e Kord region, 12 villages in the province of Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiari are now covered by the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to the Central News Unit, 2.5 million rials was used from the (?plan) and development fund of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the installation of the 5-watt television relay station. The

work of installing the station and putting it into operation was carried out by the television transmitter maintenance and repair unit of Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiari center.

Commentary Views Need for Programming

NC2908212789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0452 GMT 29 Aug 89

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit Research Group]

[Excerpts] On Sunday [27 August] when introducing his cabinet for a vote of confidence to the Majlis, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated in his remarks that the program of the new cabinet will primarily be based on the 5-Year Plan.

The bill for the first economic-social-cultural development plan was approved by the Majlis deputies in the first reading in Mehr last year [month ending 22 October 1988] and it is to be placed on the Majlis agenda after the addition of several objectives in the near future for approval during a second reading. If approved, this plan—which will include the years between 1989 and 1994—will be the first codified program for the development of the Islamic Republic of Iran since its formation. [passage omitted]

No one today doubts the fact that a program is an unavoidable necessity in each economic system. In other words, programs mean preventing the waste of capital and preventing the neutralization of activities. During the past few years, it was not possible to take steps on the basis of the precise and codified programs because of the war and other deterring factors. The war and the emergence of political-economic crises, practically halted programming in the country. Without a program, an approach to problems is a shallow approach which can have reversing impacts.

In its program, the new government has taken into consideration general bases formed of the Constitution, the testament of the great leader of the revolution, general policies, and the first 5-Year Plan. In discussing the need for programs and for the idea of programs, the new government says: Bringing about change in the unfavorable process of a developing economy which has been involved for years in an imposed war and has faced stagnation because of it needs deep and comprehensive thinkng and, as a result, the compilation of a constructive program. [passage omitted]

Of course, according to the president, next to the 5-year program, the government will gradually introduce short-term programs and policies aimed at increasing production and harnessing inflation.

In short, the need for programs is well-known, and the new program put forth by the new government clearly shows that the efforts of this government will be on the basis of programming and of the first 5-year development plan. However, many issues should be taken into consideration in programming, and in the compilation and implementation of social-economic progress. If these issues are ignored, programming can have negative impacts on society. In addition to general objectives, it is extremely important to specify the strategy, tactic, and methods to be used to achieve the objectives stated in plans when compiling a program. Next to these it is necessary to have an atmosphere of programming and realism in the compilation of programs, to avoid imaginary ambitions, to supervise the implementation of the program, and to carry out amendments in it when necessary. These are effective elements in programming. Ignoring these elements will actually mean a retrogression and the waste of capitals.

At any rate, 21,900 man hours were used by experts to compile the first 5-year program which was also studied during various sessions of the country's programming council and headquarters. The approval of the first program during the second hearing will prepare the last phase of this program for implementation, and the respectable Majlis deputies will play a major role in the final approval of the first program of the Islamic Republic of Iran's economic and social development by bearing in mind the effective elements in programming and by holding long discussions.

Iran To Publish 40 New Publications

LD2708161389 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Isfahan, Aug 27, IRNA—Some 40 new scientific, art, literary, political and historical publications have received permissions from the Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance to be published during the current Iranian year (started March 21).

Deputy minister of Islamic Culture and Guidance Sabah Zanganeh was quoted by the daily KAYHAN as announcing. He is here to inaugurate a book exhibition sponsored by the ministry.

Islamic Guards Seize Heroin, Opium, Hashish

LD2808145889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Excerpt] In a series of successful operations all over the country, Islamic Revolution Committee Guards destroyed five narcotics smuggling gangs and seized 1,670 kg of assorted narcotics.

According to a report by a Central News Unit correspondent in a press, radio, and television conference today, the Islamic Revolution committee intelligence and command operations deputy commander said regarding the recent discoveries of the Committee Guards: Following the stepping up of the fight against narcotics and the efforts of the committee guards all over the country, the

guards have succeeded in smashing a number of big international narcotics smuggling gangs.

In Tehran, Committee Guards infiltrated a narcotics gang and seized 79 kg of heroin, 280 kg of opium, 246 kg of hashish, and large quantities of weapons and arrested all members of the gang. He added: In Khorasan Province, during three nocturnal operations in the mountains in the northeast of the province, Committee Guards killed five smugglers and seized 70 kg of opium and a quantity of weapons.

He said: In the Central Province, Committee Guards infiltrated a narcotics gang and seized 45 kg of opium residue, a large number of weapons, and arrested three of the smugglers. He added: The special operations group of the Antinarcotics Department has succeeded in smashing three narcotics smuggling gangs operating in Zahedan, Mazandaran, Tehran, Shiraz, and Iranshahr, during the past few days, and seized 950 kg of narcotics. [passage omitted]

Nepal

Ministers Sharma, Bohra Dropped From Cabinet

BK3008045889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 30 Aug 89

[Text] In Nepal, two ministers have been dropped from the Marich Man Singh Shrestha cabinet. They are the industry minister, Mr Rabindra Nath Sharma, and the works and transport minister [of state], Mr Deepak Bohra.

A formal announcement to this effect was made in Kathmandu today.

Health Minister Opens Japanese-Funded Clinic

OW3108082489 Tokyo KYODO in English 0746 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Katmandu, Aug 31 KYODO—Nepal has taken delivery of a national tuberculosis center in the capital and a regional center at the resort town of Pokhara, both of which were built under Japanese assistance, officials said Thursday.

Health Minister Sushila Thapa on Wednesday received the keys of the centers that will formulate, execute, and coordinate at national and regional levels programs designed to check spread of tuberculosis in Nepal.

The centers were built and equipped with Japan's grant assistance of 1,431 million yen.

An estimated 180,000 people suffer from tuberculosis in Nepal. An average of 24,000 die of the disease each year and as many increase annually, according to officials.

The national center at Thimi near Katmandu will also house the regional tuberculosis center of the countries of the SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation).

The center was proposed for establishment in Nepal, which is also home to the Secretariat of the regional association.

Viral Encephalitis Kills 11, Infects 81

BK2708121589 Hong Kong AFP in English 1215 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 27 (AFP)—Viral encephalitis has killed 11 people in southeastern Nepal and stricken another 81, a Health Ministry official said Sunday.

The victims in Biratnagar industrial township 390 kms (244 miles) southeast of here ranged in age from five to 55, the official said.

About 30 encephalitis patients were being treated in hospital, he added.

Last summer, 400 people came down with the viral disease, which causes inflammation of the brain, the official said.

The Health Ministry has rushed encephalitis vaccines to tropical lowland districts and hill regions, he said.

Pakistan

Nine Prisoners Killed in Hyderabad Jailbreak

BK0109024489 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of Hyderabad last night said that some (?four or five) prisoners of the central jail captured some barracks and held seven constables hostage during the day. The jail authorities held talks with the prisoners, who demanded immediate scrapping of the order on appointment of a new jail superintendent as well as better facilities for the inmates.

The press note said that as the talks were still in progress, two groups of inmates started fighting with each others while some inmates attempted a jailbreak. The prison authorities then fired some shots to disperse those attempting to escape.

The seven constables who were held hostage have been released injured. Nine prisoners were killed and 12 injured as a result of the clash in the prison. All inmates have been confined to their barracks, and an inquiry into the incident has been ordered.

AFP Reports Jailbreak Attempt

BK0109004489 Hong Kong AFP in English 2006 GMT 31 Aug 89

[Text] Karachi, Sept 1 (AFP)—At least nine people died and more than 40 were injured when prisoners clashed with security forces during an attempted jailbreak Thursday [31 August] in Hyderabad, southern Pakistan, sources said.

The trouble started when some prisoners overpowered guards in the central prison in the early morning and snatched away their weapons, the sources said.

The Army was called in to quash the "mutiny," they added, and in the ensuing exchange of fire nine people died and several others were hurt, including eight policemen.

Officials confirmed the death toll of nine, but said 12 people were injured.

It was not known whether any prisoners escaped in the incident.

Informed sources said the trouble was instigated by a notorious terrorist, Janoon Arain, who is on trial for masterminding the September massacre in Hyderabad in which more than 130 people were gunned down.

Social Planning Accord Signed With Romania

BK0109054689 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Pakistan and Romania have signed an agreement on cooperation in the economic and social planning sectors between their two countries. Under the agreement, the two countries also agreed to cooperate in planning activities by promoting economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between them. The agreement was signed in Islamabad by A.G.N. Kazi, deputy chairman of the Planning Commission; and Radu Balan, the chairman of Romania's State Planning Committee.

Superpowers Urged To Help Solve Afghan Conflict

BK2208070189 Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu 9 Aug 89 p 3

[Editorial: "The Soviet Foreign Minister's Visit to Kabul"]

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Shevardnadze, arrived in the Afghan capital, Kabul, on Monday [7 August, as published] on a brief impromptu visit. Soon after arriving in Kabul, he delivered a special message of the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, to the Afghan president, Dr Najibullah, and called on Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil, and some other senior officials as well.

Before his departure for Moscow after his visit to Kabul, Shevardnadze reaffirmed his government's determination to continue assistance to all the sectors under Kabul rule.

On one side, there is the Soviet Union's determination to continue its assistance to the Kabul regime and on the other there are Western media reports which have come to light saying that 1,200 Soviet soldiers have been designated to protect Jalalabad, whereas another batch in specific numbers has been assigned to safeguard Kabul. These reports say, without any announcement, the Soviet Union has sent back some contingents of its soldiers to Afghanistan, thereby affecting the nonaligned status of Afghanistan once again.

By all means, despite doubting the credibility of the Western media reports cited, there is no denying the fact that the Soviet Union fully supports the present Afghan administration. The Soviet Union is not only having its full sway in Afghanistan, but it is also providing sophisticated arms to its ally, the Kabul regime. On the other side, the United States is also continuing all possible financial, moral, and military support to the mujahidin. And due to this tendency of the two superpowers, the state of conflicts and confrontations is growing in Afghanistan. Resulting from this state of affairs, even on the occasion of the Soviet foreign minister's visit to Kabul, the mujahidin fired 35 rockets on Kabul city, killing nine persons and injuring 35.

The trend of Soviet allegations against Pakistan is also continuing. There is an allegation of Pakistan's interference in the affairs of Afghanistan, whereas the truth is that the elected people's government of Pakistan has categorically stated that the Afghanistan dispute can not be settled by military strength but by talks and political understanding only. This stand of the Pakistan Government was not appreciated by some of the leaders of the 7-party Afghan alliance and they have leveled an allegation that the present government in Pakistan is deviating from its earlier policy on Afghanistan. But, the fact is that the stand of the present elected government on Afghanistan has been lauded globally. During the visit of the Pakistani prime minister to the United States, the U.S. leaders also accepted the fact that the Afghanistan issue cannot be settled by strength but can only be solved by political means. However, before starting any political-level talks or expecting their success, the establishment of peace in Afghanistan is very much essential and it is impossible without the cooperation of the two superpowers. If the two superpowers continue the process of the supply of arms to their allies inside Afghanistan like this, peace can never be established in Afghanistan. Both the superpowers should fulfill their responsibilities in this regard. This dispute emerged as a result of the aggression by one superpower and then escalated as a result of the row between the two superpowers and their efforts and longing to make one another politically weak. By all means, the key to a solution to this dispute is with the two superpowers. Whatever efforts the other parties of this dispute make to settle the

issue, they can not succeed until the actual parties of the dispute [U.S. and USSR] take a serious stand and come forward to solve it. As far as the Afghanistan issue is concerned, this is a bitter fact and there is no way other than accepting it.

U.S.-Soviet Apathy Toward Afghanistan Condemned

BK2108132889 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 3 Aug 89 p 10

[Editorial: "Why Has the Afghan Issue Been Put in Cold Storage?"]

[Text] The U.S.-Soviet talks on Afghanistan have ended in Sweden without reaching any conclusion. This was the first direct contact between the two superpowers since the signing of the Geneva accord. Even before the negotiations began, diplomatic circles were pessimistic about their outcome because after the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the two superpowers did not fulfill the conditions for establishing a congenial atmosphere in that country. The principle of symmetry as enshrined in the Geneva accord was not translated into action. Consequently, while, on the one hand, the Soviet Union continued to supply all kinds of military and economic assistance—and, recently, new weapons worth millions of rupees—to the Najibullah government in Kabul, the United States, on the other hand, curtailed its aid and support to the Afghan mujahidin. The Soviet ambassador in Kabul has been openly "threatening" to provide new sophisticated weapons [to the Kabul government], while the Afghan mujahidin have been complaining about their helplessness since the United States has almost left them in a lurch.

During the negotiations in Sweden, the Soviet Union allegedly offered to comply with the principle of symmetry, but the United States, in light of its own interests, expressed a reluctance to accept the Soviet proposals; that is why the negotiations did not prove to be decisive. It is believed that the United States is now in favor of a new mujahidin offensive against Kabul so that the Najibullah regime can be eliminated. But, what results can we expect from the mujahidin's new offensive when the United States has stopped supplying arms to the mujahidin? Earlier, during the Jalalabad siege, the puppet regime in Kabul caused irreparable losses to the Afghan mujahidin with the help of lethal weapons it received from the Soviet Union.

In the mujahidin's view, the United States is responsible for the manner in which the Afghan issue is being gradually put in cold storage, and in the international perspective, the Soviet Union is equally to blame for this because it has always sabotaged the prospects for establishment of a congenial atmosphere by constantly providing aid and support to the puppet regime in Kabul.

Now it seems that the United States was only interested in the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and after the pullout, the two superpowers have, through their collusion, put the Afghan issue in cold storage. It is highly regrettable that the sacrifices offered by the Afghan people over the past 10 years seem to be going in vain or, at least, it does not look as if they will be yielding any fruit in the near future.

It is a tragedy in the history of mankind that more than 5 million Afghan people have left their hearths and homes in Afghanistan and taken refuge in Pakistan, Iran, and other countries, while a coterie of Soviet puppets is in the control of their country. In fact, the nature of the plunderous foreign occupation of Afghanistan has not been changed by the Soviet withdrawal because the Najibullah government is a part of that occupation, and as long as this government is not eliminated, the Afghan people will not be able to reach their destination.

In Pakistan's view, the mujahidin's struggle must triumph because the Pakistani people, alongside their Afghan brethren, have also fought boldly against the Soviet aggression and they have never been found lacking in determination and steadfastness.

Now, Pakistan's interest lies in the establishment of a government in Kabul that is not anti-Pakistan like previous Afghan governments. In view of Pakistan's geopolitical situation, it would be better if the governments in neighboring countries—Afghanistan and Iran—adopted a friendly attitude so Pakistan would be able to fight firmly against any possible aggression by its eternal adversary, India.

Against this background, the Afghan issue—which is now being pushed into cold storage—must reach its logical conclusion as soon as possible. It is high time the concerned parties and the two superpowers eschewed their attitude of disinterestedness and apathy toward the Afghan cause and fulfilled their responsibilities so an elected government of the Afghan people could be formed in place of the Najibullah regime and a peaceful atmosphere could be created in Afghanistan under which the Afghan mujahidin could return to their homes with honor and dignity and with full satisfaction, and Afghanistan could play its role in the community of nations as an independent, Islamic, and modern democratic state.